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A Safe-Water Plan Turns Poisonous in Bangladesh

High Arsenic Levels in Tube-Well System Are Bringing Slow Death to the Population

By Barry Bearak
New York Times Service

MIAPUR, Bangladesh — A month ago, the young mother found out that her own slow dying was nothing unusual. That tens of thousands of Bangladeshi villagers were suffering the same ghastly decay, with their skin spotted like spoiled fruit and warts and sores covering their hands and feet.

Bangladesh is in the midst of what some experts say could be the biggest mass poisoning in history. Dangerous levels of arsenic have been found in the ground water, entering millions of people sip by sip as they drink from a vast system of tube wells. Most of these hand-operated pumps are 10 to 20 years old, which is about how long it takes the arsenic to do its lethal work, killing with one of several cancers.

The unfolding crisis is the unintended consequence of a colossally successful safe-water program.

For 25 years, the government along with Unicef and other aid groups has weaned villagers from disease-carrying pond water and helped them to sink pipes into underground aquifers. The naturally occurring arsenic that tainted these subterranean sources was overlooked.

Doctors and aid workers told Pinjira Begum, 25, of this calamity as they explained to her how seriously ill she was. But news that her misery had a hideous amount of company was of no consolation to a mother of three with a 4-month-old baby in her arms. Too many other indignities were rushing in to her life.

Her husband had decided she was no longer of use to him. "She was pretty once, but now she is too thin and smells bad and is uglier by the day," he said.

On Oct. 21, eating a man's traditional right in these Islamic hinterlands, Masud Rahman, 25, took a second wife. Now, as Pinjira's fevered body seems to melt in the bed, her husband sleeps a few feet away with a new bride.

These days, such heart-breaking stories are in frightfully large supply in Bangladesh and the neighboring Indian state of West Bengal.

People come out of their one-room mud-floored homes and show the skin lesions on the palms of their hands and soles of their feet. These ulcers are signs of advanced arsenic poisoning.

Estimating how many lives the arsenic will eventually claim is a multiplication problem with as yet too many unknowns: how many people are drinking the poison, how long have they been doing it and when will they stop.

"Arsenic in drinking water poses the highest cancer risk ever found," said Dr. Allan Smith, an epidemiologist at the University of California at Berkeley who this year has made three trips to Bangladesh for the World Health Organization. "But we still don't know how many millions have been exposed — and at what levels."

"We could be talking about hundreds of thousands of deaths. We just don't know. The cumulative dose is what kills. Every day that people continue to drink the contaminated water could re-

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Remembering the 'War to End All Wars'

Two sergeants of the Royal Canadian Regiment paying their respects to the fallen soldiers of World War I at the Tyne Cot Memorial and Commonwealth War Cemetery in Passchendaele, Belgium, on Tuesday. France will hold a commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the Armistice on Wednesday. Page 4.

Italian Leader Asks For Fiscal Leeway

Europeans Deserve 'Reward' For Discipline, D'Alema Says

By Alan Friedman
International Herald Tribune

ROME — Warning that the risk of recession is rising, Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema of Italy said Tuesday that Europe must be prepared to consider softening the rules on deficit spending under monetary union and mount a European campaign of public investment to create jobs.

Mr. D'Alema said that the new investment spending, which could be financed by Eurobonds, should be excluded from the calculation of budget deficits as defined in the Maastricht treaty. The comments came in his first newspaper interview since taking office three weeks ago.

Mr. D'Alema, a former Communist who heads a center-left coalition government that espouses largely free-market practices, said Europe could exempt such new borrowing "by deciding to interpret" the Stability and Growth Pact, under which members of the currency union are required to stick to strict deficit targets after the introduction of the euro on Jan. 1.

"We are heading for a very difficult 1999, in which growth is slowing and the risk of recession and deflation exists. At the same time, the euro will be launched, and it may become necessary to act by introducing public investment spending aimed at stimulating growth," Mr. D'Alema said.

"Those investments can be excluded from the calculation of the Maastricht deficit targets," he said. "This is not being scandalous or heretical. I am not proposing that we print money. All I am saying is that if necessary, Europe could decide to interpret the stability pact."

Mr. D'Alema's thinking is similar to that of senior officials in the new German government of Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, which replaced the conservative administration of Helmut Kohl. Together, these views reflect the change sweeping across Continental Europe as center-left governments search for ways to counter economic slowdown and high unemployment, while still respecting the rigid budgetary rules imposed by the Maastricht process.

"We have been very, very well behaved," Mr. D'Alema said. "We did all



Mr. D'Alema, a former Communist who heads a center-left coalition.

Force in Gulf Builds as U.S. Weighs Strike

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton met Tuesday with his senior national security team as Defense Secretary William Cohen ordered the aircraft carrier Enterprise to speed more quickly to the Gulf, where it could be used in any attack on Iraq.

Senior American officials said Mr. Clinton had not yet decided whether to use force against Iraq or how quickly it might come. But he is debating whether to strike Iraq now or wait 10 days or so, to allow him to go first to an APEC summit meeting in Malaysia, as well as to add more forces to the U.S. and British arsenal aimed at Iraq.

But the officials said they were making contingency plans to curtail or cancel Mr. Clinton's trip to Asia if necessary.

More time would also allow President Saddam Hussein of Iraq to retreat from confrontation again, although American officials said they doubted he would ever cooperate sufficiently with UN weapons inspectors to allow the true disarmament of Iraq through peaceful means.

Mr. Cohen said military force was a live option. "We'd consider the possibility of degrading his capability of manufacturing the weapons of mass destruction, or the means of delivering them, or posing a threat to the region," he said. "It would be a significant degradation of his capacity."

The State Department spokesman, James Rubin, said: "This cannot go on indefinitely. Saddam Hussein is not an abstract threat."

Mr. Cohen said: "Diplomacy always should have every opportunity to dance. But at some point, a dance has a beginning and an end."

The speedup order to the Enterprise — it should now arrive in the Gulf three days earlier than planned — followed the dispatch of another guided-missile cruiser. Its arrival this week will increase the number of warships in the region to 14. More significantly, it will increase to eight the number of vessels — two cruisers, five destroyers and one submarine — that can fire Tomahawk cruise missiles.

Mr. Clinton has already delayed his departure for Asia by one day. Rather than leaving Friday for 10 days in Malaysia, Japan and South Korea, Mr. Clinton will leave Saturday.

His spokesman, Joe Lockhart, said the delay was due to the fact that Mr. Clinton did not want to be in Guam before a Monday runoff in an election there for governor. But other officials were skeptical of Mr. Clinton's sudden reluctance to intervene in party politics, suggesting that the delay was meant to leave more options open for ordering force.

It is important for Mr. Clinton to be in Washington to monitor any use of force and deal with the diplomatic and public fallout, the officials said. Vice President Al Gore could travel in his place. But the president is eager to go to the meeting in Malaysia of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum and grapple with the issues of Asia's economic troubles. He skipped an APEC meeting in 1995, at the time of a U.S. government shutdown over a budget dispute, and Asians were hurt and angry.

Mr. Lockhart said it could take a couple of days for Mr. Clinton's national-security team to refine the options for the timing of any attack. After

In Germany, Wal-Mart Touches Off a Price War

By John Schmid
International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — Unhappy German merchants already felt squeezed by a six-year "duopoly" before a fearsome new rival threatened to make things worse.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., known in America as a "super-price" competitor of traditional stores with its "50-cent" stores, has opened a store in Frankfurt, a city of 600,000 people, at a price that is a huge variety of merchandise at low prices, gained a foothold in Germany 10 months ago. Now, price wars have erupted in Germany, a nation that has long coddled its village shopkeepers.

Wal-Mart, the world's biggest retailer, has acquired the Wertkauf GmbH chain of 21 discount super-

markets in what analysts see as the first step in an aggressive strategy to penetrate the comparatively sheltered world of European retailers.

In its effort to go global, Wal-Mart since 1991 has set up shops in Mexico, Puerto Rico, Canada, Argentina, Brazil, China and, most recently, South Korea and Germany. The Arkansas-based company's overseas drive has added more than 600 stores to its 2,300 in the United States.

In behemoth stores as large as four soccer fields, Wal-Mart in the United States sells just about anything, from car food and clothing to compact disks and auto parts. It has made a science of cutting prices.

Its "associates," as Wal-Mart employees are

called, study rulebooks on customer service, and its "people greeters" in cheerful blue vests smile at customers coming in the door (a feature that might be imported to Germany). By contrast, German retailers only recently have begun training their staffs about service.

The company said Tuesday that sales in its rapidly growing international division rose 66 percent in the quarter that ended Oct. 31, to \$2.96 billion. Wal-Mart's sales worldwide were \$33.5 billion.

Net income for the quarter was \$1.01 billion, up from \$792 million a year earlier. That brought the

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U.S. Threatens To Hit EU With 100% Tariffs

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — A long-standing dispute over trade in bananas risked escalating into a trade war as Washington threatened Tuesday to impose punitive tariffs on hundreds of millions of dollars of European exports.

The EU commissioner of foreign trade, Sir Leon Brittan, said the proposed sanctions — over what the United States sees as a protectionist deal for Europe's fruit colonies and dependencies — were unwise and dangerous, and he appealed to Washington to resume talks at the World Trade Organization.

American officials said a range of EU products would be hit with 100 percent tariffs starting Feb. 1, making them prohibitively expensive in the American market. Britain and France, which have been particularly active in protecting their former colonies, would bear the brunt of the sanctions.

Among the goods targeted, Bloomberg News reported from Washington, were cheese, fruit juices, breads, clothing, packing containers, paper and paper products, toiletries, candles, printed material including greeting cards and postcards, linen, scissors, domestic appliances such as vacuum cleaners and food processors, electrical lighting equipment, photographic equipment, toys, writing implements, and Champagne and other alcoholic beverages.

A notice published Tuesday in the Federal Register by the Office of the

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Newsstand Prices	
Andorra	10.00 FF Lebanon
Antilles	12.50 FF Morocco
Cameroon	1.500 CFA Qatar
Egypt	EE 5.50 Réunion
France	10.00 FF Saudi Arabia
Gabon	1.100 CFA Senegal
Italy	3.000 Lire Spain
Jordan	1.250 JD Tunisia
Kuwait	700 Fils U.A.E. (Dir.)

AGENDA

Besieged French Official Refuses to Quit

PARIS (AP) — Former Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, under fire for his alleged involvement in a multi-million-dollar kickback scheme, said Tuesday that he would not resign as president of one of France's highest legal bodies.

"With a clean conscience, I will continue to preside with serenity and objectivity over the Constitutional Council, which continues to function without problems," Mr. Dumas said.

Mr. Dumas has come under increasing political pressure to resign after his former mistress, Christine Deviers-Joncourt, published a book last month giving her account of his involvement in the kickbacks.

Investigators say Mrs. Deviers-Joncourt, who is about 20 years younger than Mr. Dumas, was hired to lobby him to secure the state-owned Thomson company's 1991 contract to build frigates for Taiwan.

Mr. Dumas has denied the accusations.

The Dollar			
	Tuesday 4 P.M.	previous close	
New York	1.6838	1.6838	
DM	122.365	121.7	
Yen	5.6467	5.6586	
FF	1.659	1.663	
The Dow			
	Tuesday close	percent change	
S&P 500	33.80	8,893.98	-0.53%
Nasdaq	1,128.24		-0.17%
Books	4.45	1,885.50	+0.24%

Schroeder Calls on Europe To Make Jobs a Priority

By William Drozdiak
Washington Post Service

BERLIN — Gerhard Schröder, the new chancellor of Germany urged Europe's predominantly left-of-center governments Tuesday to unite in a Continental initiative to fight the unemployment that has left nearly 20 million people out of work and heightened the risk of political extremism.

In an inaugural speech to Parliament that laid out the policy objectives of his new governing alliance of Social Democrats and Greens, Mr. Schröder said that his recent election was the culmination of a dramatic transformation over the past two years in Europe's political landscape, with 13 out of 15 European Union governments now in the hands of left-leaning rulers.

Unlike Helmut Kohl, his conservative predecessor, Mr. Schröder said his coalition would "seize the unique opportunity that the new constellation in Europe presents" and seek a coordinated European policy in creating jobs to cope with what he described as Germany's most pressing problem.

In spelling out his own modest agenda of tax cuts and other measures designed to put the nation's 4 million unemployed back to work, Mr. Schröder acknowledged that his room for maneuver was limited by what he called the "financial burdens" bequeathed by 16 years of Mr. Kohl's government.

"We have said that we do not want to do everything differently but many things better," Mr. Schröder said. "We are going to get this country moving again."

Mr. Schröder said the Social Democrats had conducted an audit upon taking over the government and were

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Indonesia's Rocky Road Forward

Factions Clash in Jakarta Streets as Assembly Meets to Plan Future

By Keith B. Richburg
Washington Post Service

JAKARTA — The ruling elite of Indonesia opened a four-day meeting Tuesday aimed at dismantling the repressive laws of the authoritarian past and plotting the course to a democratic future.

But on the streets, democracy was on full display, as thousands of student protesters blocked roads and clashed with pro-government vigilantes armed with bamboo spears.

The students, whose relentless protests led to the fall of former President Suharto in May, were back out in force Tuesday, this time demanding that the Legislative Assembly, consisting of Suharto appointees and former cronies, stick to the path of political reform and turn the ousted dictator's resignation into a genuine revolution against the system he left behind.

Among other things, the students are demanding that Mr. Suharto and his family members who enriched themselves during his three decades in power be brought to trial. The students also want a wide-ranging investigation of human rights abuses committed during the Suharto years.

None of these issues is on the agenda for the session of the People's Consultative Assembly, which is meeting behind a cordon of thousands of troops to draw up an electoral calendar for next year and decide the rules

for Indonesia's first open political contest in decades. The students, and leaders of the political opposition, are skeptical that this assembly can manage the task of navigating Indonesia from dictatorship to democracy.

The 1,000 delegates are mostly Suharto-era holdovers, stalwarts of the ruling Golkar party, and members of the military — the very forces that resisted the push for change here and reluctantly embraced it only when Mr. Suharto was removed from the scene.

In addition, the most popular figures of opposition to Mr. Suharto, like Megawati Sukarnoputri, the daughter of the late president, Sukarno, and the Muslim academic Amien Rais, were barred from attending the session. They held their own meeting Tuesday and issued their own proposals for reform, including a demand that Mr. Suharto's successor, President B.J. Habibie, step down immediately after elections are held in May.

At the center of the debate is a reform agenda advanced by Mr. Habibie to hold elections for a new Parliament in May, choose a new president by the end of 1999 and to limit the president to two consecutive five-year terms.

The assembly must also rewrite the country's restrictive political laws, that now allow for the existence of just three political parties, the ruling Golkar machine and two smaller parties that are limited in where



Students facing off against riot police guarding the Parliament building in Jakarta on Tuesday.

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Scholars, in Testimony, Tell House Panel It's Impeachment or Nothing

By Linda Greenhouse
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Constitutional scholars on both sides of the impeachment debate have warned members of the House Judiciary Committee that a compromise like a vote to censure President Bill Clinton has no basis in the Constitution and could dangerously weaken the institution of the presidency.

The subject of the daylong hearing Monday before the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on the Constitution was the history and meaning of impeachment.

But if high crimes and misdemeanors provided the text, high-stakes politics was the subtext as the committee members often used the distinguished law professors and historians as foils for scoring their own points.

Outside the hearing room, the world may have changed since the Republican House voted last month to open impeachment proceedings that the public in last Tuesday's election appeared to have decisively, if implicitly, rejected.

But inside, partisan lines were sharply drawn, tempers flared and insults flew among members of the committee and even between committee members and the scholarly witnesses from whom they were ostensibly seeking instruction.

If the Republicans were looking for an exit strategy, a graceful way of walking away from the politically unwinning prospect of an up-or-down impeachment vote, that was not apparent.

Indeed, Representative Charles Canady, Republican of Florida, who heads the subcommittee, set the tone when he announced in his opening statement that "the evidence before us clearly supports the conclusion that the president is guilty of multiple acts of lying under oath, obstruction of justice and other offenses" for which he "must be called to account under the Constitution for the commission of high crimes and misdemeanors."

Democrats reminded the Republican majority at every turn that "the American people have so clearly told us it is time to move on," as Representative Robert Scott of Virginia, the subcommittee's senior Democrat, put it.

Henry Hyde, the Illinois Republican who is chairman of the full committee, responded grudgingly that while "we pay attention to the polls and to the election," the committee was obliged to press on.

"I'm frightened for the rule of law," Mr. Hyde said. "We should have a government of laws and not of men, but we're going in the other direction."

Any Republicans who might silently have been hoping for a negotiated compromise sort of impeachment found little encouragement.

"It is either impeachment or nothing," said the lead-off Republican witness, Gary McDowell, a former Justice Department official in the Reagan administration and now director of the Institute of United States Studies at the University of London.

"Impeachment is the only legitimate constitutional punishment available," he said, adding that for Congress to vote for censure would be "to assume a power not given."

Mr. McDowell's view was echoed by another Republican witness, John McGinnis, a law professor at Yeshiva University.

On the Democratic side, the Reverend Robert Drinan, a professor at Georgetown University Law Center who sat on the Judiciary Committee as a Democrat from Massachusetts when the committee voted to impeach President Richard Nixon, said the alternative of censure would "establish a dangerous precedent which would weaken the institution of the presidency."

Arthur Schlesinger Jr., the historian, said in his prepared testimony, in a portion he did not read before the subcommittee, that censure would "hand one or both houses of Congress a new weapon to threaten and intimidate presidents."

Views on the censure question, although widespread, were not uniform. Michael Gerhardt, a law professor at the College of William and Mary and the only one of the 19 witnesses to appear under the sponsorship of both parties, said censure had been used against five judges and two presidents, Andrew Jackson and James Polk, in the 19th century. "I think censure has a textual and historical pedigree we shouldn't ignore," he said.

A Republican witness, William Van Alstyne, a law professor at Duke University who was scathingly critical of Mr. Clinton, urged the committee, in light of the likelihood that impeachment would fail, "to the extent you can, struggle to find a suitable means to express your sense of disappointment."

He said it was "the prerogative of this Congress to express dismay, despair and condemnation" by a means short of impeachment.

The tense and snappish mood on the subcommittee was perhaps best illustrated by an exchange sparked by Mr. Schlesinger's remark that Congress should approach with a "sense of proportionality" the question of whether lying about sex, whether by Mr. Clinton in connection with his relationship with his slave, Sally Hemings, should lead to impeachment.

"I doubt if there's anyone in this room who hasn't told a lie at one time or another about his love life," Mr. Schlesinger, 81, said. "We'd become the laughingstock of the world" if such an offense led to impeachment, he said.

This provoked an outburst from Representative Bob Inglis, Republican of South Carolina, who, while sarcastically praising Mr. Schlesinger's "level of sophistication," said the professor's message was "lie if you choose because it just doesn't matter."

"We should publish in the Federal Register a list of permitted perjuries," continued Mr. Inglis, who was defeated last week in a Senate race and will soon be leaving Congress. "Lie if you're the president. Lie in a case involving sex. After all, he says, gentlemen do that, and you'd just not be with it if you didn't lie about sex."

On the deeper question before the subcommittee, the standard for determining an impeachable offense, the Democratic witnesses generally took the view that the Constitution demanded a grave misuse of official power, and that the allegations against Mr. Clinton did not come close to meeting that test.

Professor Cass Sunstein of the University of Chicago Law School urged the members to draw a lesson from the "tradition of restraint and forbearance" that has kept Congress from impeaching presidents in circumstances ranging from Franklin D. Roosevelt's secret and unlawful transfer of arms to Britain in the early years of World War II to Ronald Reagan's involvement in the Iran-contra affair.

Many of the Republican witnesses said the framers would have been completely comfortable with impeaching a president for a demonstrated lack of personal integrity as indicated by perjury and obstruction of justice, among the charges the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, has referred to the House.

The Next House Speaker: A Classic Republican and a Calming Influence

By Katharine Q. Seelye
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The man who would be speaker is in many ways a classic Republican. He is an advocate for business, especially the oil and gas industries in his home district in Louisiana. He opposes abortion. His formative political years were spent reading Ayn Rand and George Orwell.

And he is no softie. He has a black belt in karate. His temper has flared openly on the House floor and in private behind closed doors — anywhere he decides to dig in his heels. Bob Livingston can suddenly shout, turn red and flail his arms around as if trying to take flight.

But friends and adversaries alike say these outbursts are usually done for effect, and when they are over, he'll catch someone's eye and laugh. In any case, he now vows to keep his cool.

Robert Livingston Livingston, 55, a lanky Louisiana with an aristocratic New York pedigree, is the presumptive speaker of the House, second in line to the presidency after the vice president. He has secured the position unofficially after a midterm election in which he doled out thousands of dollars in campaign funds to fellow House Republicans and, over the last week, commanded a five-day steamroller over potential rivals, including the current speaker and his longtime friend, Newt Gingrich.

He is expected to be picked by his fellow Republicans in a secret ballot Nov. 18. Then the entire House is to vote for speaker in January, a vote that normally runs along party lines and will almost certainly propel Mr. Livingston into the top spot. He is presenting himself as a calming influence in the House, a day-to-day manager and a reassuring figure of stability after a wild ride under Mr. Gingrich and two elections in which Republicans lost House seats.

Members of both parties said Monday that Mr. Livingston's taking over the helm would probably have little effect on the Republican policies that have emerged over the last four years but that he would put less emphasis on the social issues pushed by the hard-core right.



Representative Bob Livingston of Louisiana, laughing in Washington with the speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, whom he is likely to succeed.

They said the biggest change, at least initially, would be to take the sting out of the fierce partisanship that developed under Mr. Gingrich.

"He will have pretty much the same agenda that Newt had," said Representative David Obey of Wisconsin, the ranking Democrat on the Appropriations Committee, which Mr. Livingston heads. "You will still have a pro-business, very much pro-oil industry party, and it is still very much a Southern-led party."

But, he added, "The main difference is that Livingston is an institutional man and Gingrich was an anti-institutional man. Gingrich was willing to turn the institution into a snake pit in order to

take power and hold power. This place will become much less cannibalistic and much less of a snake pit."

SOME CONSERVATIVES worry that Mr. Livingston will prove too conciliatory to Democrats. Some worry that, as a manager, he will be too narrowly focused on the details of the budget and forgo the role of inspirational leader.

To Mr. Livingston, this is a virtue. "The big picture is easy," he once said. "Anybody could sit around and direct the big picture. But where the second-guessing occurs and you get your problems are on the hundreds and

Aspirants Jockey for Other Top Posts

Gingrich's Departure Emboldens Challengers From Left and Right

By Guy Gugliotta
and Juliet Eilperin
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — With Representative Bob Livingston of Louisiana all but certain to succeed Newt Gingrich as speaker, other House Republican leaders are fighting to bold of challengers emboldened by the party's disappointing results in congressional elections last week.

Representative Jennifer Dunn of Washington, a moderate and vice chairman of the House Republican Conference, announced Tuesday that she would challenge the majority leader, Dick Armey of Texas. Mr. Armey is already facing challenge from a young conservative, Steve Largent of Oklahoma, and a third, lesser-known lawmaker — Howard (Buck) McKoon of California — is considering the race.

Armey aides expressed confidence that the majority leader would prevail when Republicans meet next week to select leaders, but the challengers are hoping to capitalize on discontent

among both conservative and moderate lawmakers with the way the No. 2 House Republican has handled his job.

Mr. Livingston took over Mr. Armey on Tuesday, and members close to Mr. Livingston said he did not plan to endorse any candidates in the leadership contest. After months of lining up votes, Mr. Livingston appears poised to become the party's choice for speaker next week, when the 223 House Republicans from the incoming 106th Congress meet to elect their officers and make committee assignments.

Mr. Livingston was in the audience for a speech Tuesday by Mr. Gingrich, a Georgia Republican, who called Mr. Livingston "the next speaker of the House." In his address to GOPAC, the political action committee he had decided to leave because his continued presence in the House would have been an "excuse for divisiveness and factionalism" among Republicans.

In the Senate, meanwhile, the assistant leader of the Republican majority, Don Nickles of Oklahoma, made clear that he would not challenge

Trent Lott of Mississippi for the leadership, despite pressure on him to do so from some conservatives, both on and off Capitol Hill.

"I am sending a letter to my colleagues announcing that I plan to run for another term as assistant majority leader," Mr. Nickles said.

Handicapping the leadership contests is a hazardous enterprise, particularly because "members lie" about commitments, as a top House aide put it. Unlike floor votes, which are publicly recorded, party leaders are elected by secret ballot, and the art of lining up support in a leadership election can be something of a leap of faith.

A spokeswoman for Mr. Armey said her boss had more than 100 votes from supporters "who said they were going with Armey no matter what," and "ultimate success was simply a matter of locking down the last 10" votes.

Representative John Shadegg of Arizona, who is supporting Mr. Largent's candidacy, dismissed this assertion. "The standard line is that from the first nanosecond of the race to say 'you've got it locked up,'" he said.

Costly Geese: \$5.3 Million at JFK

The Associated Press
NEW YORK — The agency that operates John F. Kennedy International Airport will pay Air France \$5.3 million to settle a lawsuit over damage done to a Concorde jet by a flock of geese that were sucked into its engines.

Air France contended that the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey had

failed to perform required "runway sweeps" to frighten birds away before every takeoff or landing of a Concorde flight.

Air France said repairs to the plane after the 1995 landing took five days and cost more than \$9 million. No one was injured.

Neither the Port Authority nor the airline would discuss the matter, which was reported Monday by The Star-Ledger of Newark, New Jersey.

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TRAVEL UPDATE

Club Med Tourists Return to Paris

PARIS (Reuters) — A group of 287 tourists flew back to France on Tuesday after being held hostage for three days by striking workers at a Club Med resort on the Caribbean island of Martinique.

The vacationers were blocked inside their village complex on Thursday and were only rescued on Sunday night when policemen in riot gear were called in to break through the picket line. The tourists, who were originally due to fly home on Saturday, were then bundled aboard buses and whisked away.

One unidentified tourist told French television after arriving in Paris Tuesday: "There was a lot of aggression. The buses were hit by axes and clubs. Young children and elderly people had to run the gauntlet of very high emotions."

Another tourist said stone-throwing strikers had smashed the windshields of two buses.

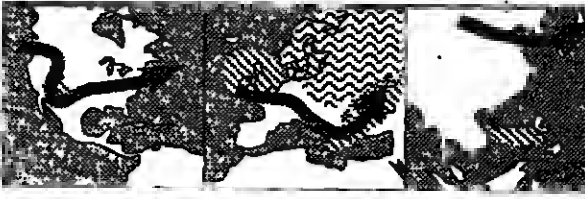
A Club Med spokeswoman said the holiday group would write shortly to all the customers, offering compensation for their ordeal. "The exact terms of the compensation are being worked out at the moment," she said.

Club Med said in a statement that the Boucaniers village would remain closed until further notice. Workers at the island resort went on strike to press their demand for an 8 percent pay hike. Management has offered them 3 percent.

The first big U.S. snowstorm of the season swept across the northern Plains on Tuesday, shutting down a major highway and sending hundreds of cars skidding into ditches. One person was killed in a car crash in Minnesota, where up to a foot (30 centimeters) of snow was expected by nightfall. In western South Dakota, a 175-mile stretch of Interstate 90 was shut down because of ice and low visibility. (AP)

WEATHER

Forecast for Thursday through Saturday, as provided by AccuWeather.



Map, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. (800) 840-8888 • <http://www.accuweather.com>

Europe				North America			
City	Temp	Wind	Clouds	City	Temp	Wind	Clouds
London	54°	10-15	Partly Cloudy	New York	45°	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Paris	52°	10-15	Partly Cloudy	Los Angeles	65°	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Rome	50°	10-15	Partly Cloudy	San Francisco	60°	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Moscow	40°	10-15	Partly Cloudy	Hong Kong	75°	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Beijing	35°	10-15	Partly Cloudy	Singapore	80°	10-15	Partly Cloudy

Asia				Africa			
City	Temp	Wind	Clouds	City	Temp	Wind	Clouds
Tokyo	65°	10-15	Partly Cloudy	Cairo	75°	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Seoul	55°	10-15	Partly Cloudy	Nairobi	70°	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Manila	80°	10-15	Partly Cloudy	Accra	75°	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Bombay	85°	10-15	Partly Cloudy	Abuja	75°	10-15	Partly Cloudy

Latin America				Oceania			
City	Temp	Wind	Clouds	City	Temp	Wind	Clouds
Buenos Aires	65°	10-15	Partly Cloudy	Auckland	65°	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Sao Paulo	70°	10-15	Partly Cloudy	Sydney	70°	10-15	Partly Cloudy
Lima	75°	10-15	Partly Cloudy				

Legend: S=sunny, P=partly cloudy, C=cloudy, SH=showers, H=heavy rain, SN=snow, F=fog, M=mist, W=windy, V=very windy, T=tornado, H=hail, S=sleet, D=dew, B=blizzard, L=lightning, G=gale, F=fog, M=mist, W=windy, V=very windy, T=tornado, H=hail, S=sleet, D=dew, B=blizzard, L=lightning, G=gale.

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THE AMERICAS

More Americans Using Less Water

9% Fall Despite Population Rise

By William K. Stevens
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In a little-noticed but potentially historic environmental turnabout, federal analysts report that Americans' use of water fell about 9 percent from 1980 to 1995 — even though the U.S. population grew 16 percent over the same period.

The drop in water use, which came after decades of steady increase, is attributed largely to a gradual shift in emphasis from finding ways to capture more water — building dams, for instance — to using it more efficiently.

The recent disclosure of the decline, by the U.S. Geological Survey, runs contrary to the conventional belief that water use inevitably rises with economic and population growth and that priority must therefore be given to opening up new sources.

But now, agriculture and industry, especially, have become more frugal in using water. As a result, some say, the once-solid linkage between water use and growth may have been broken.

"The data are showing a fundamental change in the way we're using and thinking about water," said Peter Gleick, director of the Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, an environmental research organization in Oakland, California. He is also the author of a new study, "The World's Water."

Whether the decline in water use will continue is unclear. Most of the drop occurred in the 1980s, with a decline of only 2 percent reported from 1990 to 1995, the latest year for which numbers were available. Moreover, the numbers are estimates and therefore subject to error.

Nevertheless, specialists say, a steady 100-year uptrend in the use of water appears to have been halted.

"We feel pretty confident in saying that things have stabilized over the last 15 to 20 years," said Wayne Solley, a hydrologist at the Geological Survey.

He is the lead author of the agency's report, which was released last month.

Child's Play Wanes

Structured Activities Taking Time From Diversions Like Tag and TV

By Barbara Vobejda
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — American children spend less time watching television than they did in the early 1980s and less time eating, but more time in sports and slightly more time on homework, according to a new national study.

Among the most striking changes is the increase in time spent at school, up by an average of more than 90 minutes weekly since 1981. That is happening not because academic school days are longer, researchers said, but because more children are in preschool programs and child-care programs before and after school.

The study by the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan, the first in-depth look in nearly two decades at how U.S. children spend their time, offers a detailed portrait of modern family life in America. It shows that the entry of more women into the labor force has had an effect on childhood schedules, causing a sharp decline in the hours children can spend playing tag outside, for example, or in other unplanned activities.

Free time left after going to school, eating and sleeping, the study found, had decreased last year to 25 percent of a child's day from 40 percent in 1981.

"Children are affected by the same time crunch that their parents are affected by," said Sandra Hofferth, a senior research scientist at the institute. "Parents are busy, and children are spending much more time in structured environments."

After collecting minute-by-minute time diaries from the families of 3,600 children, the researchers were able to describe in detail a typical child's week, from the average 74 hours asleep to the 9 hours spent consuming meals.

Overall, children average about 90 minutes in front of the television set on weekdays, down from two hours in 1981. But TV still occupies far more of a child's time than does homework or reading.

Average study time on weekdays increased to 21 minutes from 14 minutes for boys. For girls, the figure rose to 22 minutes from 19. And reading at home, even for 12-year-olds, occupies less than an hour and a half each week, no more than in 1981.

POLITICAL NOTES

The Bell Tolls for Free Interstates

WASHINGTON — The marvel of the Interstate highway system in the United States is not just that it runs through all 50 states, but that most of it is free. A driver can angle from Key West, Florida, up to Bellingham, Washington, and easily avoid any tolls. The end of the free ride may just over the horizon, though.

A provision in the new \$203 billion transportation spending law allows lets up to three states add tolls on their Interstates. Advocates say the test program is the only way for some cash-strapped states to maintain their overburdened roads.

But truckers and other heavy road-users say Interstate tolls amount to double taxation. It is gas taxes, they note, that paid for President Dwight Eisenhower's grand vision of a coast-free, concrete grid speeding commerce and people from coast to coast. They plan to fight any request for tolls. They will make Arkansas, whose highway commission has already voted to apply for a toll permit, "ground zero" in their campaign.

Pennsylvania's governor, Tom Ridge, has also proposed tolls for Interstate 80, a major east-west artery, and Florida officials have mentioned tolls as a way to relieve congestion on Interstate 4 outside Orlando. States between Seattle and Chicago have also long complained about traffic that speeds from the port to points east with heavy costs but little benefit. (AP)

Front-Runner for Gingrich's Seat

WASHINGTON — Johnny Isakson, the chairman of Georgia's state school board and a Republican moderate, will enter the special election race to replace the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, later this week, according to sources close to him.

Mr. Isakson, who served as minority leader in the Georgia state House and twice ran for statewide office, would be the automatic front-runner in the staunchly Republican, suburban Atlanta district.

The date of the special election remains uncertain, because Mr. Gingrich has not specified the date of his resignation from the House. Governor Zell Miller will have 10 days after Mr. Gingrich leaves office to set the date; the contest must be held at least 30 days after the order is issued.

Many state officials believe the election will be held in the first few weeks of 1999. (WP)

Quote/Unquote

Newt Gingrich, who resigned as speaker of the House after his confident predictions of Republican gains evaporated on Election Day last week: "I can't pretend to any of you that I saw it coming, because frankly I thought I was in one world at 6 o'clock and was in a different world by midnight." (AP)



PLAINS' SCRAPE — A Kearney, Nebraska, man clearing his windshield Tuesday after snow hit the Northern Plains, closing 600 miles of highways, stranding motorists and causing power outages. People were advised not to travel in South Dakota and parts of North Dakota and Nebraska.

Away From Politics

• A federal safety agency is reviewing whether more protection is needed in automobiles for passengers involved in side-impact crashes. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration granted a petition filed by a consumer group, Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety. "The current federal standard for side-impact protection is too weak and is long overdue for strengthening," said Judith Stone, the group's president. (AP)

• Six women inmates in New York state prisons have filed a federal lawsuit seeking to prevent male correction officers from frisking clothed female inmates. The suit contends that the practice is degrading and sexually abusive and violates the inmates' constitutional protection against cruel and unusual punishment. (NYT)

• The navy called off a search for three aviators who went overboard into the Atlantic Ocean off Virginia when two jets collided on the deck of the carrier Enterprise. The aviators were presumed dead, bringing the death toll from the accident to four. The cause of the collision remained under investigation. (AP)

Labour Takes Over In Bermuda Ballot

The Associated Press

HAMILTON, Bermuda — The Progressive Labour Party, supported by many of Bermuda's blacks, has ended 30 years of conservative rule by sweeping to its first victory in general elections.

Preliminary results showed the Labour Party winning 26 seats in the 40-seat Parliament, with the rest going to former Prime Minister Pamela Gordon's United Bermuda Party. Labour held 18 seats in the outgoing government.

The Labour Party leader, Jennifer Smith, who will become the new prime minister, said Bermuda's residents had met their "date with destiny" in the elections Monday.

Turnout was 77 percent of the 36,000 voters on the island, Britain's most populous remaining colony with 60,000 people.

The biggest issue was the economy, which is dependent on tourism and a booming off-shore banking industry now threatened by proposals for stricter regulation.

The Labour Party, which has moved to the political center in recent years, sought to reassure the island's white-led business community during the campaign. The party, formed 35 years ago, had never won a parliamentary election before Monday.

Although Bermuda residents enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world, with a per capita income of \$36,000, some complain of declining education standards and a lack of affordable housing on the 23-square-mile island.

"We've got a lot of work to do," Ms. Gordon said, acknowledging the party's defeat, "and if this is what the people of Bermuda need to start the healing process, then we need to get busy." The United Bermuda Party was founded by the white merchant class descended from Britons who settled in Bermuda in the 1600s. Ms. Gordon is black, as is most of her cabinet, but the party is seen by many as part of the white establishment.



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YOKOHAMA
MIDDLE EAST
ABHA
ABU DHABI
AL JUBAIL
AMMAN
BAHRAIN
BEIRUT
CAIRO
DUBAI
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PETRA
RIYADH
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INTERNATIONAL

In France, a Stormy Armistice Day

Celebration of 80th Anniversary of World War I Sparks Political Spat

PARIS — President Jacques Chirac began two days of ceremonies on Tuesday to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of World War I.

The 1914-18 war, at the time called by French soldiers "la der des der" ("the very last one"), left more than 8.5 million soldiers dead. Among them were 1.35 million Frenchmen.

Only a handful of veterans remain alive, but the war still arouses passion in France and has sparked a rare public dispute between Mr. Chirac and Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, a Socialist, over a mutiny by French soldiers in 1917.

Mr. Chirac is scheduled to visit the clearing in the woods at Rethondes, north of Paris, where military chiefs of the allies and the German-led coalition signed the armistice in a railway carriage, ending more than four years of slaughter.

The bugle that first relayed news of the cease-fire to the trenches at 11 A.M. on Nov. 11, 1918, will sound again Wednesday as Mr. Chirac and Queen Elizabeth II of Britain attend the main ceremony at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris.

Troops will march down the Champs-

Elysees in the blue uniforms of the period, escorted by vintage vehicles.

A few surviving veterans will be on hand for what French officials privately say is going to be the last major commemoration of the war that introduced many of the weapons that shaped 20th century warfare.

The queen, who is scheduled to travel to the Ypres battlefield in Belgium later in the day, will make the link with World War II by inaugurating a statue of Britain's wartime prime minister, Winston Churchill, on the banks of the Seine River.

Queen Elizabeth will be the highest-ranking foreign dignitary attending the ceremonies in France.

Suggestions for a series of big events have been quietly dropped in favor of smaller ceremonies that have taken place over the past few months in the military cemeteries that dot the plains of northern France.

To honor allied veterans, France is giving its top award — the Legion of Honor — to surviving soldiers.

Up to 1,000 veterans of the war are alive in France, 200 in the United States,

168 in Britain, 73 in Australia and a handful in Canada, New Zealand, Portugal, Italy and Senegal.

The toll taken by artillery, machine guns and gas in the trenches devastated a generation of men.

Of 8.4 million Frenchmen called to arms, 1.35 million died, leaving 600,000 widows. The toll was 1.7 million dead in both Germany and Russia, 900,000 in Britain, 116,000 in the United States. At least 20 million were wounded.

So horrifying were the memories of the first modern-age war, that it still stirs powerful emotions.

The preparations for the 80th anniversary have been overshadowed in France by a dispute between Mr. Chirac and Mr. Jospin who have sparred over whether history should take a kinder view of French mutineers shot by firing squads during a particularly deadly phase of the war.

When Mr. Jospin suggested the idea last week, Mr. Chirac's office issued a rare public rebuke, saying the move was "inopportune." Supporters of the conservative president suggested Mr. Jospin was undermining military discipline.

IRAQ: As Clinton Weighs Options, Carrier Speeds Toward Gulf

Continued from Page 1

some departures over the weekend, about 100 UN weapons inspectors remain in Iraq, and they would presumably be withdrawn before force was used.

But no ultimatums will be issued before force is used, and no new negotiating missions to Baghdad are planned by any country, officials said.

Mr. Clinton is described by some officials as reluctant to appear bloodthirsty. "He's not gung-ho; he'd rather not resort to this," one official said. "But there's a feeling that it's the best of bad alternatives."

The options for the use of force revolve around timing — strike now, while Mr. Saddam continues his defiance, or wait until more American and allied forces can be moved to the Gulf to make a strike more forceful.

"If there's going to be one morning-after reaction," one official said, "it's likely to be, 'Gee, we didn't know it would be that big.'"

He and other officials said they were tired of Mr. Saddam's constant challenging of the United Nations and the United States and his continued defiance after repeatedly breaking vows to comply with the UN and allow arms inspectors unfettered access to sites in Iraq.

Now Mr. Saddam's refusal to cooper-

ate with the inspectors is complete, officials said. "This is a first. For Saddam to stiff the UN to such an extent," an official said. "We've been through this so many times. Saddam bought himself eight or nine months, but it's time to pay the piper."

Mr. Clinton is also said to be asking what the use of force would accomplish, as precisely as possible, and what would follow any use of force. "The day-after scenario gets dicey, and we may not be coming up with the right answers," another official said.

Any use of force would probably mean the end of the UN inspection regime, which Mr. Saddam has not allowed to work for eight of the last 12 months in any event, officials say. If Mr. Saddam were to attempt to reconstitute

nuclear, biological or chemical weapons afterward, Mr. Rubin, the State Department spokesman, said Monday, "we will act."

But Mr. Rubin and other officials noted that even Mr. Saddam's name advocates had been silent this time.

"What we're hearing around the world is a clear and ringing call on Saddam Hussein to reverse course, from every quarter, from every country," Mr. Rubin said.

If the administration opts for a quick strike, Tomahawk cruise missiles would play a dominant role. Although the United States has significantly reduced its air and naval forces from a peak in February of more than 400 warplanes, it has doubled the number of Tomahawks to somewhere between 250 and 350.

Manila Adds Patrols Near Disputed Reef

Reuters

MANILA — The Philippines stepped up military patrols around a tiny South China Sea reef on Tuesday to prevent entry of Chinese vessels into the disputed area.

"I have instructed the chief of staff to block all the exits and entry there," said President Joseph Estrada. But a

spokesman for Mr. Estrada said later that the stepped up air and naval security around Mischief Reef in the Spratlys did not amount to a blockade.

"The order applied particularly to Chinese fishing vessels," said the spokesman, Jerry Baricua. "There will be no military confrontation of any kind with the Chinese," he said.

BOOKS

ARMADILLO

By William Boyd. 337 pages.
\$24. Alfred A. Knopf.

Reviewed by Richard Bernstein

THE talented and prolific William Boyd has written half a dozen good novels already, most of them set in exotic locales where Europeans struggle with the exigencies of foreignness.

His new novel, "Armadillo," is set in London, which is a shift for him. But the storytelling talents that marked Boyd's earlier books are fully in evidence in this entertaining novel, which gives us one of the more likable, lost and perplexed central characters yet to appear in his oeuvre.

The character this time is Lorimer Black, who works successfully as a loss adjuster for an insurance company, a loss adjuster being a kind of investigator who makes sure that insurance claims are legitimate. Lorimer has "ink dark hair and a serious-looking face, fine-featured but pallid face," an exotic look that is a clue to another identity that

he keeps carefully concealed. His birth name is Milomre Blocc. He is known as Milo to his Gypsy family, which runs a car service and bears roughly the same relationship to Lorimer as a hack driver would to an Oxford don.

Boyd loves to pit all-too-human characters against perverse bad fortune, giving them enough slack to try to redeem themselves, and this is what happens to Lorimer, a kind of secret foreigner amid the British.

Most obviously, Lorimer is caught up in a puzzling intrigue at GGH Ltd., the company where he works. He comes to be suspected of disloyalty by his boss, a man named Hogg in good Dickensian fashion who is a menacing and paranoid version of the character played by Edward G. Robinson in the movie "Double Indemnity."

Lorimer is also beset with the problem of a new company director named Torquil Helvol-Jayne, a figure with all the charm of a pit bull without the pit bull's loyalty, or courage.

On the periphery of Lorimer's professional world is a

beautiful actress named Flavia Malinverno, unhappily married to a juggler named Gilbert from whom he tries to steal her away. Then there is Lorimer's family, including an older brother, three older sisters, a mother and a grandmother, most of whom lean on him, the worldly success of the family, for loans and emotional support.

Lorimer is oddly disconnected from the British world he has made his own, while his family members seem just disconnected, period. When his mother calls one day to tell him that his father has died, she rushes to say: "Sorry to bother you, darling. Bye."

Other ingredients: Lorimer collects ancient warriors' helmets, the helmets seeming — though this is vague — to emblemize the armadillo of Boyd's title. He buys flowers from a shopkeeper named Marlobe, a furious, profane man who dreams of carrying out mass slaughter.

Lorimer is an insomniac and goes to a clinic called the Institute of Lucid Dreams, where he is treated by a psychologist named Alan Kenbarry. The doctor tells him: "The lucid dream is, in a way, a vision of a perfect life . . . You want to enter that perfect world where everything can be controlled. . . . Rid yourself of that desire and deep slumber will return."

This panorama of eccentricities and knaves takes on a kaleidoscopic, almost manic quality in "Armadillo," which seems to have been written by a profane 1990s version of S.J. Perelman. But Boyd's zany, exaggerated characters are endowed with their author with a gift for the kind of spicy dialogue that keeps them entertaining.

In one episode Lorimer

goes to a weekend party at the country house of Torquil Helvol-Jayne, brilliantly, acidly fashioned by Boyd into a stunning satire of British manners, a circus of individual solipsism, conjugal aggression and generalized deceit, the country weekend from hell.

Hapless but intelligent, Lorimer watches as his world goes to pieces. A brilliant coup that he scores in his work as a loss adjuster goes awry, so that not only are the authors of a false insurance claim murderously angry at him but so, for some inexplicable reason, is his boss, Hogg. He begins to receive death threats. Somebody torches his car. His pursuit of Flavia Malinverno runs aground.

Lorimer does not understand why his world is being torn apart, though he does know that for the most part his world is made up of bluster and hypocrisy. At one point he watches Hogg, who has just dismissed him, stride off "with his burly body, his swagger" and accept a "root from the chairman of the company. The image captures the undercurrent of: brutal brutality of Lorimer's world."

A kind of redemption comes in the end for Lorimer, though it is a confused and ambiguous one. He tries to puzzle out exactly what went wrong, but neither he nor the reader ever understands exactly what has happened.

Even at the very end, just when Lorimer seems to have won the heart of Flavia, matters remain uncertain. The lesson seems to involve the untrustworthiness of others and the overall precariousness of a world where the moral order appears as images in a fun house mirror.

New York Times Service

BEST SELLERS

The New York Times		
This list is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on the list are not necessarily consecutive.		
Rank	FICTION	Last Week
1	THE PATH OF DAGGERS, by Robert Jordan	1
2	THE VAMPIRE ARMAID, by Anne Rice	2
3	BAG OF BONES, by Stephen King	2
4	ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT, by Mary Higgins Clark	5
5	THE POISONWOOD BIBLE, by Barbara Kingsolver	2
6	RAINBOW SIX, by Tom Clancy	3
7	THE LOOP, by Nicholas Evans	8
8	WELCOME TO THE WORLD, BABY GIRL, by Fannie Flagg	4
9	THE HUNDRED DAYS, by Patrick O'Brian	9
10	THE REEF, by Nora Roberts	7
11	MEMOIRS OF A GESSHA, by Armin Greder	10
12	THE HAMMER OF EDEN, by Ken Follet	1
13	TODAY I FEEL SILLY & OTHER MOODS THAT MAKE MY DAY, by Jamie Lee Curtis	16
14	THE LOCKET, by Richard Paul Evans	11
15	I KNOW THIS MUCH IS TRUE, by Wally Lamb	19
NONFICTION		
1	TUESDAY'S MORNING, by Mitch Albom	2
2	THE DEATH OF A SALESMAN, by William J. Bennett	55
3	THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, by Laura Segalinger and Stewart Vagstad	3
4	DAVE BARRY TURNS 50, by Dave Barry	13
5	LINDENBERG, by A. Scott Berg	6
6	THE PROFESSOR AND THE MADMAN, by Simon Winchester	9
7	PURE DRIVE, by Steve Martin	4
8	JUST JACKIE, by Edward Klein	7
9	WORKING WITH EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, by Daniel Goleman	10
10	HIGH CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS, by Ann H. Coulter	3
11	A PIRATE LOOKS AT FIFTY, by Jimmy Buffet	21
12	A WALK IN THE WOODS, by Bill Bryson	12
13	ANGELA'S ASHES, by Frank Armstrong	14
14	AND THE HORSE HE RODE IN ON, by James Carroll	11
15	HIS BRIGHT LIGHT, by Danielle Steel	4
ADVICE, HOW-TO AND MISCELLANEOUS		
1	SOMETHING MORE, by Sarah Bay Boush	1
2	THE BREAST CANCER PREVENTION DIET, by Robert Aron	2
3	IF LIFE IS A GAME, THESE ARE THE RULES, by Cheryl Chase-Scott	6
4	THE 9 STEPS TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM, by Sue Crenan	3

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INTERNATIONAL

For Dalai Lama, Blasts From the Past

Beijing's Strident Rhetoric Sets Back Chances for Negotiation

By John Pontret
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — The mouthpiece of the Communist Party assailed the Dalai Lama on Tuesday for not abandoning his goal of an independent Tibet and seemed to close the door on the possibility of negotiations between the Tibetan leader and the Chinese government.

In a strident editorial colored with the language of the political struggles of 30 years ago, the People's Daily accused the Dalai Lama of covering up his true "splitist" nature, manipulating the Western media to hide his true aims and "just playing tricks."

Meanwhile, the Chinese Foreign Ministry warned U.S. officials to shun the Dalai Lama during his weeklong trip to the United States.

"We ask U.S. leaders not to meet the Dalai Lama to avoid harming China-U.S. relations," a ministry spokesman said.

The Dalai Lama was welcomed Tuesday in the White House by the first lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton. President Bill Clinton dropped by 10 minutes after the visit began. Later, the Dalai Lama was to meet with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Vice President Al Gore.

The editorial was the second and strongest statement made by China in a

week against the spiritual and temporal leader of the Tibetan people. The first statement was issued by the State Council, the top government body.

The statements cast doubt on reports over the past two weeks of progress between negotiators representing Beijing and the Dalai Lama. China has demanded that before it resumes formal talks with the Tibetan spiritual leader, he must first proclaim that Tibet is an inalienable part of China, that Taiwan is a province of China and that he will end all of his activities aimed at fomenting Tibet's independence.

Lodi Gyari, the Dalai Lama's representative in Washington, announced this month that he was hopeful that the two sides could begin taking the first tentative steps toward arranging for the Dalai Lama to return to China for the first time in almost 40 years. Mr. Gyari said the Dalai Lama would not return directly to Tibet but rather journey to Mount Wutai, a Buddhist pilgrimage center in Shaanxi, a northern Chinese province. The Dalai Lama fled Tibet in 1959 following a Chinese crackdown on a Tibetan uprising.

But the People's Daily editorial criticized the use of such announcements as signs of "insincerity."

"In reality, there's nothing new in the Dalai Lama's recent show," the editorial said. "There has been no change in his persistent view backing Tibetan independence."

The Clinton administration, specifically officials on the National Security Council, have made a rapprochement between the Dalai Lama and China an important goal of Washington's relations with Beijing.

During a June summit meeting with President Jiang Zemin, Mr. Clinton publicly urged the Chinese leader to resume formal talks with the Dalai Lama.



The Dalai Lama, right, with Ethel Kennedy at the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award ceremonies in Washington. The Tibetan spiritual leader's ongoing U.S. visit has drawn fire from the Chinese government.

Chinese troops entered Tibet in 1950 and for nine years the Dalai Lama's government and the Communist Party lived in an uneasy association until an abortive Tibetan uprising.

Taiwan Defends Stand on China

President Lee Teng-bui of Taiwan used a rare visit by a U.S. cabinet official Tuesday to make his case for rejecting China's attempts to assert sovereignty over Taiwan. The Associated Press reported from Taipei.

The government of Taiwan "not only exists, but also strenuously upholds democracy and freedom," Mr. Lee told Energy Secretary Bill Richardson, according to a statement from the Taiwan presidential office.

Beijing has complained to the United States about the visit, which it says violates agreements that Washington

has made with Beijing to have nothing but unofficial contacts with Taiwan.

Mr. Richardson assured Mr. Lee that Washington's support remained steady, although his presence here has been interpreted as a U.S. effort to undo the damage done in the summer, when President Bill Clinton went to Shanghai and said he would not back Taiwan's efforts to assert itself internationally. Taiwan residents believed that Mr. Clinton's remarks would encourage Beijing to try harder to isolate Taiwan.

Mr. Richardson said Tuesday that Washington supported Taiwan's entry into the World Trade Organization on its own economic credentials. China insists that Taiwan not precede it into the WTO, which sets rules for global trade, but U.S. officials attending an economic conference Tuesday said Washington would not attach political considerations to Taiwan's entry.

Mr. Lee told Mr. Richardson that Beijing must recognize Taipei as an equal partner in dialogue to permit real progress in their halting steps toward a return to negotiations about improving ties between the two rivals. The talks were suspended by China more than three years ago.

Taiwan rejects China's call for it to recognize Beijing's sovereignty, even symbolically, and condemns Beijing's refusal to acknowledge the island's Nationalist government. China considers the island a breakaway province.

Mr. Richardson is only the third cabinet official to visit Taiwan since the Clinton administration decided in 1994 to sanction trips by technical and economic officials.

BRIEFLY

Turkey Warns Iraq On Aid to Kurds

ANKARA — Turkey's deputy prime minister, Bulent Ecevit, accused Iraq on Tuesday of stepping up support for Turkish Kurd separatists and said Ankara was ready to take action if it felt its security threatened.

He alluded directly to Turkey's successful campaign of military threats against Syria, which last month resulted in Damascus pledging not to allow rebels of the Kurdish Workers Party to find refuge on its territory.

Thousands of Turkish troops backed by a local Kurdish militia are pursuing the rebels deep inside northern Iraq, a Kurdish-held enclave outside Baghdad's control since the end of the 1991 Gulf War. (Reuters)

New Rebel Forces Reported in Zaire

KINSHASA — President Laurent Kabila is facing a new rebellion in the home province of Mobutu Sese Seko, the former dictator, local newspapers and diplomats said Tuesday.

Two Kinshasa dailies said Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo, son of a Congolese tycoon, Bemba Saolona, had started a rebellion in Equateur Province with the goal of joining forces with guerrillas battling Mr. Kabila with the backing of Rwanda and Uganda. The elder Mr. Bemba disavowed any involvement with the reported rebellion. (Reuters)

World Bank Sets Storm Relief Fund

WASHINGTON — The World Bank said Tuesday that it would redirect existing loans to provide \$201 million in immediate assistance to Central American countries devastated by the hurricane designated Mitch. Of the total, \$100 million will go to Honduras, \$60 million to Nicaragua, \$21 million to Guatemala and \$20 million to El Salvador. The bank said this total did not include any future support under emergency loans it is preparing. (Reuters)

Israeli Official Sees Progress On Approval of Peace Accord

Reuters

JERUSALEM — Israel's cabinet probably will meet Wednesday to vote on the new interim peace accord with the Palestinians, a senior Israeli official said Tuesday.

Israel halted discussion of the land-for-security deal last Friday after a bomb attack in Jerusalem. It said ministers would not reconvene until they were satisfied that the Palestinians would wage "all-out war" on anti-Israeli militants.

"We are expecting certain things from the Palestinians in relation to the war against terrorism and we hope to get these by the end of the day," the official said Tuesday. "If we do, then the chances are good that we'll convene" Wednesday, he said.

He added that the cabinet would probably vote on the deal Wednesday, allowing Parliament to start its endorsement debate on Thursday.

The accord provides for the phased handover of 13 percent more of the West Bank to Palestinian self-rule over 12 weeks, matched by specific Palestinian steps against violence.

The Israeli official would not specify what information Israel was awaiting from the Palestinians, calling it "sensitive." A senior Palestinian security official, Rashid Abu Shabak, said Israel had not made any precise demands and alleged that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was "playing games."

Palestinian officials have expressed frustration at Israeli delays in endorsing the accord, which Mr. Netanyahu and

the Palestinian president, Yasser Arafat, signed last month at the White House.

The United States, which brokered the deal, also has made clear it expects Israel to forge ahead despite Friday's attack. The explosion wounded 21 Israelis at a Jerusalem market while the cabinet was discussing the accord, known as the Wye River Memorandum. The militant group Islamic Jihad has claimed responsibility for the attack, in which the two bombers died.

The State Department spokesman, James Rubin, said in Washington that it was "understandable that there would be a sort of pause" in moving forward after the bombing. The accord sets the first Israeli pullback for Nov. 16, though Mr. Arafat said last week he had accepted Mr. Netanyahu's request for a delay.

Violence Disrupts Municipal Elections in Israel

Agence France-Press

JERUSALEM — A rash of violent incidents marred Israeli municipal elections Tuesday as a host of independents and small parties competed with major political groups for posts often seen as stepping stones to national political prominence.

Israeli radio reported more than 300 incidents of physical assault or property destruction linked to the elections, being held in 161 towns and cities across the country.

The police said they had intervened

more than 180 times, with 84 of the incidents occurring in Tel Aviv, where seven candidates were running for mayor and scores for positions on the municipal council.

In Lod, near Tel Aviv, shots were fired at a car bearing posters for one candidate, slightly wounding one man, while in southern Israel a campaigner was run over and injured by a car from a rival camp, the police said.

The chief of the national police, Yehuda Wilk, said the election was "the most violent in Israel's history."

Analysts attributed the high number of incidents both to a general increase in social violence in Israel in recent years and to the large number of candidates and rival parties contesting the polls.

A rash of arrests also marred voting in East Jerusalem, where Palestinian leaders had called for a boycott of the election, which seen as legitimizing the Israeli annexation of the Arab sector of the city.

The police arrested eight Palestinians for trying to prevent Palestinian residents from voting.



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EUROPE

Europeans Bridle at U.S. Handling of Kosovo

By Roger Cohen
New York Times Service

BERLIN — When Richard Holbrooke reached an agreement last month with President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia to avert North Atlantic Treaty Organization air strikes in Kosovo, the German government waited two days for a copy of the accord before finally squeezing one out of the Yugoslav Embassy in Bonn.

"It was almost funny," a senior German official said, "if it was not so worrying. There seems to be very little willingness to treat the Europeans on an equal footing. Our impression is sometimes that the Americans prefer to cut us out and that they are no longer capable, intellectually speaking, of being part of a team."

As with Bosnia, Kosovo has once again sharpened tensions between the United States and the European Union over security issues, revealing a European incapacity to mount a concerted response to a crisis in Europe without American leadership.

When the Balkan wars began in 1991, the Europeans at least had pretensions of resolving the crisis themselves. Foreign Minister Jacques Poos of Luxembourg, representing the European Union, uttered the famous phrase, "The hour of Europe has dawned."

But as fighting raged in Kosovo this summer, senior European officials conceded, there was not an inkling of a coherent European response, even as the Continent prepared to take a decisive step toward greater economic union. The vacuum opened the way for Mr. Holbrooke's whirlwind negotiations — and then deep European misgivings about continuing American domination of security issues in Europe almost a decade after the end of the Cold War.

"We got criticized for too little leadership in Europe and then for too much," Mr. Holbrooke said. "The fact is the Europeans are not going to have a common security policy for the foreseeable future. We have done our best to keep them involved. But you can imagine how far I would have got with Milosevic, if I'd said, 'Excuse me, Mr.



Ethnic Albanians repairing the roof of a damaged house in the village of Kisna Reka in Kosovo on Tuesday.

President, I'll be back in 24 hours after I've talked to the Europeans."

Western officials said the Europeans were particularly incensed by Mr. Holbrooke's failure to attend a meeting of the five-nation Contact Group on Oct. 15, two days after the agreement had been reached in Belgrade.

It was that group — made up of Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Russia and the United States — that formally gave Mr. Holbrooke his mandate to negotiate with the Yugoslav president.

Although the U.S. deputy secretary of state, Strobe Talbott, attended the meeting, European officials felt that they had been slighted.

Almost a week later Mr. Holbrooke made a special trip to Paris to have dinner

with Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine of France in an effort to make amends.

Europeans were also angry at how the appointment of an American, William Walker, to head the mission to Kosovo of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe had been decided. "We provide two-thirds of the expense and the personnel, and then the appointment is made with almost no consultation," said an official.

At one point, angered by what was seen as a lack of consultation by the Americans on Kosovo, the top British official in the Foreign Office made a formal protest to the National Security Council officials said.

Mr. Holbrooke said the European protests were generally overblown or

insignificant expressions of frustration and masked a reality of fruitful cooperation. "It took us four years to put together anything effective in Bosnia and four months in Kosovo," he said. "That is progress."

The chief American negotiator in Kosovo, Christopher Hill, has been working closely with Wolfgang Petrich, the Austrian ambassador to Belgrade who is representing the European Union, because Austria holds its rotating presidency. Moreover, Britain, France and Germany are putting the final touches on a 1,500-member "extraction force" to be based in Macedonia, bordering Kosovo. That force would, if necessary, protect the observers in the mission headed by Mr. Walker.

U.S. Proposal Outlines Kosovo Power-Sharing

By R. Jeffrey Smith
Washington Post Service

ROME — After being deprived of political power in Yugoslavia for the last nine years, the ethnic Albanian population of Kosovo Province would gain access to at least a fifth of the seats in the national assembly under the latest U.S. draft plan to settle the Kosovo crisis.

The plan would also give the Kosovo Albanians — who have a 9-to-1 majority among the 2 million people in the province — an opportunity to assert their influence through a representative on the Yugoslav federal court and membership on the Supreme Defense Council.

The confidential U.S. draft states clearly that Kosovo authorities would be autonomous and allows residents of the region to elect their own president, enact their own laws, collect their own taxes, form their own police force and establish their own civil and criminal courts. In short, it would give Kosovo Albanians substantial control over their day-to-day lives.

But the proposed agreement has been greeted coolly by the Yugoslav government of President Slobodan Milosevic, which just wrapped up an eight-month military campaign to crush a separatist movement in Kosovo — a province of Serbia, Yugoslavia's dominant republic.

It has also met resistance from some ethnic Albanians — including commanders of the armed separatist group known as the Kosovo Liberation Army — who argue that it does not go far enough to sever the province's 85-year-old connection to Serbia.

Many ethnic Albanians say they want written assurance that the province's legal status can be changed, which the draft does not provide. It also does not guarantee that Kosovo would have its own constitution and does not grant Kosovo the status of a republic within Yugoslavia — something that U.S. officials judged neither Serbia nor the Serb-led Yugoslav government would accept.

Buried in its text are dozens of issues that remain hotly disputed in Belgrade — capital of both Yugoslavia and Serbia — and among ethnic Albanian leaders, with most of them far from resolution.

Included are many symbolic questions, such as who will control the names of towns and the wording of street signs, as well as more fundamental matters, such as how much power will be reserved for the Serb minority in Kosovo and who will control the privatization and profits of Kosovo's factories and mines.

Building a government from scratch is "indeed a hard job," said Christopher Hill, the U.S. ambassador to Macedonia, who has taken a lead role in efforts to cobble together a political deal aimed at halting violence in Kosovo that has claimed more than 800 lives and uprooted at least one in every six inhabitants of the province.

Mr. Hill, who helped draft the Dayton agreement that ended the 1992-1995 conflict in Bosnia, said that his current task is "far more difficult."

But he said that the latest draft went "pretty far in getting Serbia out of the institutions of Kosovo."

Mr. Hill also said he was pleased the two sides were now reacting to each U.S. proposal with detailed comments, even if they had been unwilling to engage in direct talks thus far.

Mr. Hill's strategy in recent weeks has been to set aside the most contentious issues until the final stage of negotiations, in hopes of getting each side to agree on the framework of a deal

before getting bogged down in details. That means that a series of annexes — setting forth how police forces will operate, how economic matters are decided and how elections are to be conducted — have not yet been drafted.

Although an agreement between Mr. Milosevic and Richard Holbrooke, the special U.S. envoy, last month called for elections in Kosovo by next summer, for example, there has been no agreement on the timing of a census that must be carried out well in advance of the vote. Ethnic Albanians say such a tally could be grossly distorted by the flight of residents out of the province this year to escape the government offensive.

Paul Williams, an American University professor who formerly worked on Balkan matters in the State Department's Office of Legal Advisor, said that earlier U.S. drafts had offered the Kosovo Albanians less political power than they had from 1974 to 1989 — a degree of autonomy that many Albanians in the province now say is inadequate. Ethnic Albanian leaders also had demanded earlier U.S. efforts as a tool of Serbian interests.

Kosovo was stripped of that autonomy by Mr. Milosevic — who was president of Serbia at the time — and since then its ethnic Albanians have boycotted all national elections and governmental processes. As a result, most of the federal lawmakers from the province are hard-line Serbian nationalists.

Some U.S. officials have speculated that if Kosovo Albanians elected their own representatives to the federal assembly they might join representatives of Montenegro — Serbia's much smaller partner in the Yugoslav federation — to weaken Mr. Milosevic and possibly engineer his downfall.

The ethnic Albanian negotiating team has described the latest U.S. draft as the first to provide an adequate foundation for negotiations. Among its other provisions are a detailed list of "human rights and fundamental freedoms" that go well beyond those available to citizens of Serbia in general — including freedom of expression and assembly and the right to "security of person."

Police Seize Copies Of Belgrade Paper

The Associated Press

BELGRADE — The police impounded all 100,000 copies of Tuesday's edition of an independent Belgrade daily newspaper for allegedly breaching Serbia's restrictive media law.

Despite the crackdown, the owner of the newspaper, Dnevni Telegraph, vowed to keep publishing.

The police action at the newspaper's headquarters late Monday came after the daily failed to pay a fine of 1.2 million dinars (\$120,000). A Belgrade court ruled Sunday that Dnevni Telegraph's editors would have to pay the fine for "publishing information inciting destruction of the constitutional order."

The move against the newspaper, known for its criticism of President Slobodan Milosevic, was the latest in a series of crackdowns on Serbia's fledgling independent media since the adoption of a restrictive media law last month. Slavko Curuvija, chief editor of Dnevni Telegraph, said he would continue printing the paper in Bulgaria, Hungary, Bosnia or the Yugoslav republic of Montenegro.

Prince Philip's Tour of Ireland Seen as Royal Overture

By James F. Clarity
New York Times Service

DUBLIN — In a gesture clearly intended to advance the Northern Ireland peace effort, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip, visited both parts of Ireland today and said he hoped for an end to the "rather artificial divisions" separating the people of the Irish Republic and the British province of Ulster.

Prince Philip's visit is widely seen in the Irish Republic as a precursor to a visit here within the next year by his wife, Queen Elizabeth II.

A visit by the queen would be the first to the Republic of Ireland by a reigning British monarch since the south of the island became independent in 1922. The Queen's grandfather, King George V, visited Dublin in 1911.

A royal visit to the Irish Republic had been an unthinkable event until the new peace effort began five years ago. In 1979, the Queen's cousin, Lord Mountbatten, was killed in an Irish Republican Army attack on his yacht off County Sligo, on the west coast.

But on Tuesday, as Prince Philip was chatting with President Mary McAleese of Ireland and Prime Minister Bertie Ahern, two Republican women prisoners convicted of conspiring to attack British security forces were released

early from a prison in the north as part of the peace agreement approved in the North and the Republic in the spring.

President McAleese is to join Queen Elizabeth on Wednesday in a ceremony at Messines, Belgium, honoring the soldiers who died in World War I.

More than 200,000 Irishmen fought in the British army during the Great War.

At that meeting, Queen Elizabeth and President McAleese are expected to discuss a royal visit to Dublin.

The visit included poignant ironies: his meeting with President McAleese was at the presidential mansion in Phoenix Park, the former residence of British colonial rulers.

Prince Philip also attended a ceremony at Dublin Castle, the seat of British colonial power.

And when he visited the prime minister at government buildings in central Dublin, Union Jacks flew in the brisk wind.

Irish national radio reported that the prince said he hoped for the end of the "rather artificial divisions," separating north and south. A national radio commentator said the visit was "a step toward closer relations" between Britain and Ireland.

While Ireland and Britain have had generally cordial official relations in



Martina Anderson, an IRA prisoner who was freed along with Ella O'Dwyer from a Belfast jail on Tuesday, embracing their mother. They were the last women IRA prisoners to be released under the peace agreement.

recent years, there is a residual Irish resentment of English culture.

In Belfast, Roman Catholic and Protestant leaders continued to disagree over the issue that has slowed the peace effort, the disarmament of the IRA. The overwhelmingly Catholic guerrilla or-

ganization has observed a cease-fire for 16 months, but wants to hold on to its weaponry.

The Belfast agreement approved last spring does not require disarmament until the agreement is fully enacted in the spring of 2000.

EU Moves Forward on Expansion Plan

Detailed Negotiations Open With 6 Leading Applicants, Including Cyprus

Reuters

BRUSSELS — The European Union moved a new stage of its ambitious eastward expansion plan on Tuesday, opening detailed negotiations with the six front-running candidates.

"Today we opened the actual negotiations; nothing can stop the train," Foreign Minister Wolfgang Schuessel of Austria said at a news conference after EU foreign ministers had met Cyprus, one of the six leading candidates for EU

membership. "It is a very important day for Cyprus," Foreign Minister Ioannis Cassoulides said, adding that he hoped the talks would eventually embrace the divided island's Turkish part, which has declined an invitation to participate.

Separate meetings were to be held during the day with the other five front runners, Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia and Estonia.

The British foreign secretary, Robin Cook, said the event represented yet

another milestone in the 15-nation bloc's plan to embrace the former Communist bloc and the Mediterranean island of Cyprus.

Five other eastern European countries — Lithuania, Latvia, Slovakia, Romania and Bulgaria — are also waiting in the wings, having been put on a slower train to membership.

The first round of negotiations, which follow months of scrutiny by applicants of the hundreds of thousands of pages of EU law, will cover seven areas where the candidates expect little difficulty in adapting to EU requirements.

In some areas, like education and research, no problems have been identified that need negotiating. Talks on more controversial sectors such as agriculture will start later.

While Mr. Cassoulides told the news conference Cyprus believed it could enter the EU in 2003, EU members, not least the new German government, are increasingly talking in terms of a first expansion in 2005 or 2006.

Greece Renews Threat of Veto

Greece will make good on its threat to veto enlargement of the European Union if some of the bigger EU states block the accession of a divided Cyprus. Agence France-Presse reported Tuesday from Athens, quoting the Foreign Ministry.

"Cyprus's EU accession process constitutes a political strategy of major importance to Greece," the Foreign Ministry secretary-general, Yannis Krandiotis, said in a statement.

Greece "will not agree to the future enlargement of the European Union if Cyprus does not form part of it."

He was reacting to a joint statement issued in Brussels on Monday by France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands warning they would block any attempt to integrate the Mediterranean island in the absence of a political settlement.

Support for French Spy Suspect

PARIS — A dozen retired French soldiers held a public demonstration of support Tuesday for a French Army officer who was arrested last week on charges of spying for Belgrade.

"The army backs the Serbs. Release Major Bunel," read a banner unfurled near the Defense Ministry by the demonstrators, who claimed to belong to "an armed forces collective."

Major Pierre Bunel, 46, was detained for allegedly turning over NATO air-strike plans to agents from Belgrade last month. He faces 15 years in prison if convicted of handing intelligence data to a foreign nation. (AFP)

Italian Banker to Be Exhumed

ROME — The body of Roberto Calvi, the powerful Italian banker found hanging under a London bridge in 1982, will be exhumed in December to determine if he was murdered or committed suicide, judicial sources said Tuesday.

Public prosecutors set Dec. 16 as the date for the exhumation of the corpse of Mr. Calvi, whose murky death 16 years ago sent shivers through Italian society. An autopsy will be performed after his remains are exhumed from a Milan cemetery.

Mr. Calvi fled Italy after the country's largest private bank, Banco Ambrosiano, went bankrupt with debts of about \$700 million. He was chairman of the bank. He was later found hanging under Blackfriars Bridge in central London.

A British coroner's report that year found that he had hanged himself. But his family in 1992 forced an inquiry into his mysterious death after gathering evidence suggesting he was hunted down by the Mafia. (AFP)

A Minute of Silence for Ataturk

ISTANBUL — Turkey paused for one minute Tuesday to mark 60 years since the death of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, who founded the secular state.

Police and military helicopters hovered over Ataturk's mausoleum in Ankara where leaders gathered to lay wreaths amid fears of attacks by Islamic militants or Kurdish separatists.

Military officers, war veterans and state officials jostled with reporters for space inside the small room in an Ottoman palace in Istanbul where Ataturk died on Nov. 10, 1938. All stood at attention as sirens wailed at 9:05 A.M. — the time at which the man known as "the great leader" died.

Traffic lights turned red across the country, and drivers got out of their cars and stood silently. (Reuters)

Synagogue Near Auschwitz Rededicated After 60 Years

The Associated Press

OSWIECIM, Poland — Polish, Israeli and U.S. officials joined representatives of a private foundation Tuesday to rededicate the synagogue near the Auschwitz death camp, nearly 60 years after it was confiscated by the Nazis.

"Our goal is to re-create a permanent structure symbolizing Jewish life in a place which for too many years has only represented Jewish death," said Fred Schwartz, founder of the Auschwitz Jewish Center Foundation.

The foundation, which is based in New York City, is carrying out restoration of the synagogue in Oswiecim in southern Poland.

The Lomdei Mishnayot Synagogue was used until 1939, when Nazi troops entered Poland. After World War II, it was seized by the Communists.

In March, Polish authorities returned the small, turn-of-the-century building to the local Jewish community, the first facility to be restored

under a government program to provide restitution of former Jewish religious property.

The American foundation is collecting funds to renovate the synagogue, which until recently was used as a carpet warehouse. An adjoining building is to become a museum and cultural center for the study of Jewish history in Poland.

Mr. Schwartz said restoration work would take up to two years and cost some \$10 million.

Before World War II, 7,000 Jews worshipped at a dozen synagogues in Oswiecim, a town of 11,000 people, where the Nazis built the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp during the war.

The Nazis destroyed the other 11 synagogues in the town, which now has only one Jewish resident, an elderly man.

More than 1.5 million people, 90 percent of them Jewish, perished at the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp complex.

Rumer Godden, Prolific Writer, Dies at 90

The Associated Press

LONDON — Rumer Godden, 90, a prolific author whose imagination was fired by living in India, has died.

Miss Godden, who published her 21st novel, "Cromartie vs. The God Shiva," last year, died Sunday in a nursing home near her daughter's home in Thornhill, Scotland, said Suzanne Baboneau, a spokeswoman for Macmillan, Miss Godden's publisher. The cause of death was not announced.

Miss Godden had her first major success with her third novel, "Black Narcissus," published in 1939. The story of a group of nuns who establish a convent in northern India explored themes of cultural conflict and obsessive love, and

was made into a film starring Deborah Kerr in 1947.

"The River," published in 1949, was one of her most acclaimed books and was made into a film by Jean Renoir.

Margaret Rumer Godden was born Dec. 10, 1907, in the English city of Eastbourne. She was 9 months old when her family moved to India, where her father ran a shipping line.

"Our house was streaked with Indian or Indian streaked with English," Miss Godden wrote in "Two under the Indian Sun," a memoir co-authored with her sister Jon Godden in 1966. "It might have been an uneasy hybrid, but we were completely and happily at home."

Miss Godden returned to London at

age 20 to learn how to teach dance to children, and opened a school back in India. She fell in love with a stockbroker, Laurence Sinclair Foster, became pregnant and married him.

Returning to England while she was pregnant, she wrote her first book, "Chinese Puzzle," published in 1936.

The baby died at birth, but the ill-suited couple later had two daughters. The marriage ended in 1941, and Mr. Foster left her penniless and alone in Calcutta. "I have distrusted charm ever since," Miss Godden once said.

She returned to England to stay in 1945, and made a happy second marriage in 1949 to James Haynes-Dixon, a civil servant. He died in 1973.

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Renew Pressure on Iraq

Even as it considers air strikes against Iraq, the Clinton administration seems ready to abandon the seven-year-old United Nations weapons inspection program there. That would be a premature and costly decision. Though slowed by Baghdad's obstructions and evasions, the international weapons specialists working inside Iraq have provided an effective first line of defense against Saddam Hussein's efforts to produce and hide usable germ and nerve gas weapons.

The new policy Washington is contemplating, which would seek to restrain Iraq from ever using toxic weapons rather than preventing their development, would be far more risky. Given a free hand, Iraq can quickly rebuild a deadly arsenal of weapons. Records uncovered by the inspectors show that in one point Iraq had produced about 2,000 gallons of anthrax bacteria and nearly 5,000 gallons of botulinum toxin. It also produced at least four tons of VX nerve gas, which can kill with just a few drops. A substantial portion of Iraq's chemical arsenal has been destroyed under international supervision in recent years, but the job of locating and eliminating its immense stockpile of germ weapons remains far from complete.

Iraqi use of such weapons against its neighbors would invite an overwhelming conventional American military response. It would be far better to ensure that such a confrontation never materializes. The administration should make at least one more concerted effort to reimpose the UN inspection system, which Iraq halted by decree late last month.

Washington's first steps should be diplomatic, building on the Security Council resolution last week that un-

animously condemned Iraq's actions and demanded that Baghdad stop interfering with the inspectors. But getting the inspectors back to work may require a punishing, carefully targeted campaign of air and missile strikes on Iraqi military targets.

After Iraq's defeat in the Gulf War, Baghdad accepted peace terms that required it to identify and destroy all elements of its biological, chemical and nuclear weapons programs and all but its shortest-range missiles. Iraq never fully complied with these obligations. But by conducting surprise inspections and confronting Iraqi officials with independently obtained evidence, the inspectors managed to unearth most of Iraq's weapons secrets.

Diplomacy backed by the threat of force has moved Saddam Hussein before, and may again. If it does not, Washington will have no choice but to launch missile strikes and bombing raids aimed at the pressure points of his dictatorship, including bases of elite security units like the Special Republican Guards.

The goal would be to persuade the Iraqi leader to cut his losses by letting the inspectors go back to work. The risks that such action would fracture international support for continued economic sanctions against Baghdad are much reduced. Saddam's recent actions have left him diplomatically isolated.

Washington has a few more days to see whether diplomacy works.

During that time, the administration should move additional weapons into the Gulf, region, including Stealth fighters and bombers. The inspection system will permanently collapse only if Washington lets it.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

IMF Is on the Right Track, Even With Adjustments

By Michel Camdessus

WASHINGTON — The International Monetary Fund has come under heavy criticism in recent months both for its handling of global financial contagion and its proposals for defending against future crises. While many of the critics have offered constructive advice, at times the discourse has lost sight of the facts — and the true significance of the proposed remedies.

First, the sources of the continuing Asian economic crisis — and its cures — are more complex, and run deeper, than is generally recognized. They originated in serious deficiencies in national economic policies and in major flaws in the international financial system. Admittedly, it does seem almost unimaginable, even in retrospect, that so much could go wrong so quickly for the economies in Asia.

The very success of these economies, however, made it especially difficult for political leaders in the region to accept the quiet counsel (yes, possibly too quiet) of the IMF, the World Bank and other institutions to reform their financial systems and correct the glaring deficiencies of corporate governance.

In a recent article, "The IMF's Remedies Are Doing More Harm Than Good," *Opinion*, Oct. 5, Henry Kissinger suggested that shortcomings such as cronyism and corruption were little more than the "cost of doing business" in these countries. In fact, they were the rot at the core of economies that appeared almost unblemished on the surface. Competitiveness and confidence in Asia had already begun to slip as insolvent banks and South Korean business groups became known. But that decline reached Mach speed after governments failed to take decisive action. Temporarily measures taken primarily to defend pegged exchange rates soon proved ineffective.

Many outside observers have mistakenly assumed that the content and pace of structural reform measures

were unwelcome concessions to the IMF. Of course, there was, and continues to be, opposition to deep reform from powerful interests that would have gladly opted for some illusory "quick fix." But there was no disagreement at the working level that structural reform was indispensable for restoring domestic and international confidence and achieving a sustainable economic recovery. To address this crisis, the IMF had to put together comprehensive programs in emergency situations. And they include considerable adaptations. For example, the IMF has pressed countries in Asia and elsewhere to adopt and expand social safety net measures to help ease the impact of austerity on the poor.

Macroeconomic elements of programs have also been adapted. Fiscal targets have been eased, sometimes despite the misgivings of fiscally conservative governments. Most important, had we known that Japan's economic slowdown — the crisis within the crisis — would worsen, we would have pressed earlier for greater fiscal easing in some countries.

The basic approach — which included tightening monetary policy at the outset to stop the free fall of exchange rates, then subsequently easing interest rates as stabilization was achieved — proves to have been appropriate. Positive results are becoming increasingly evident even though economies have fallen into recession. Interest rates have come down sharply in South Korea and Thailand, foreign-exchange reserves have been rebuilt, exchange rates have strengthened and current accounts show

impressive surpluses. What Asian countries, Russia and too many other countries did not do was build sound financial systems quickly enough and give enough attention to the proper phasing and sequencing of capital account liberalization. Their "disorderly" liberalization now threatens to give liberalization itself an undesired bad reputation.

But orderly liberalization is the correct ultimate goal. While there may be merits to maintaining temporary, limited restraints on short-term capital flows, they still resemble the Maginot Line: difficult and costly to construct, and astonishingly easy to avoid.

The great surprise, Mr. Kissinger actually suggested that the IMF "too often compounds the political instability" and "weakens the political structure" in countries it seeks to help by urging "nearly invariable remedies" that "mandate austerity" and include reforms that are too ambitious.

Recent history — in Asia, Latin America and Europe — contradicts the notion that political leaders can gain favor by avoiding needed economic reform. Political leaders who have failed to grasp the need for economic stabilization and reform have been swept from office. Leaders, especially those who are democratically elected, who have ignored vested interests and tackled economic problems, explaining to the public why painful measures are required, have not only survived but achieved the economic turnarounds their countries required. The world is fortunate, indeed, that the best of modern political leaders do not cower when crisis looms. I could mention Presidents Fernando Henrique Cardoso of Brazil, Kim Dae Jung of South Korea

and Carlos Saul Menem of Argentina, among a long list.

Now we have another great task before us in improving the architecture of the global financial system. A formidable, but achievable, agenda for reform was laid out last month at the annual meeting of the IMF in Washington and endorsed by the G-7 governments. Greater transparency of economic information and policy making at both the national and international levels is the top priority.

The IMF itself has come a long way in increasing its own transparency, and we are committed to going further. Pressing ahead with strengthening government systems for supervising and regulating financial systems is another priority. The IMF will be leading that effort, working closely with the World Bank, national authorities and other institutions.

The private sector will need to be engaged more fully and constructively, in both crisis prevention and working out financial solutions for crises when they happen. This is a complex area that will require imaginative thinking and extensive cooperation. The IMF will still need to make major financial commitments to support policy reform packages, hopefully in most cases, such as Brazil, to head off actual crisis situations. So I am greatly encouraged that Congress has approved the U.S. share of increased resources for the IMF.

All of these ideas are likely to become part of the consensus on international monetary reform that I expect to see emerging in coming months. Thus, we can look forward with confidence to a sounder global financial system to underwrite greater prosperity in the 21st century.

The writer is managing director of the International Monetary Fund. He contributed this comment to *The Washington Post*.

Livingston's Prospects

Boh Livingston will apparently be the next speaker of the House. It is less clear who will hold the other Republican leadership positions. Our sense is that Mr. Livingston may be not just a steadier and more constructive leader but a far more formidable one than his revered predecessor. He certainly has the chance.

The future speaker is a creature of the appropriations process. Newt Gingrich, who will succeed, skipped over more senior members in favor of Mr. Livingston lead the Appropriations Committee in 1995. The appropriators in both houses have reputations, partly deserved, as accommodative types who care less about partisanship than about the comradely dispensation of goodies and the orderly passage of their annual bills, which the goodies help to facilitate. In fact, they have a much more disciplined history than this good-old-boy reputation suggests.

A disproportionate share of the fiscal discipline that has been achieved in recent years has been in the third of the budget subject to the appropriations process. Rather than cut entitlements, presidents and Congress have found it easier to support economy in the abstract by imposing prospective caps on appropriations. The appropriators have had to apportion the annual pain, and they have

pretty well stuck to their assignment.

Unlike some of their showier colleagues, they tend as well to have an appreciation of the detail of government operations. They are not without their philosophical differences, but they know better than most what given programs they can safely yield and what they need to continue to operate effectively. That, too, serves as a discipline. Part of the "vision" that Mr. Livingston will bring to the speakership will be an appropriator's awareness of what the ideologies would cast aside.

If he behaves as his history suggests he will, he risks losing at certain junctures the support of his party's lockstep conservatives, some of whom oppose his candidacy. The math is such that he will be able to give up only five votes and maintain his majority. He will have to prospect among the Democrats for votes. Democratic support will be needed in any case to pass legislation able to survive a veto.

The question is not just how Mr. Livingston will play his hand next year but how the Democratic leadership and the conservatives within the Democratic caucus will play theirs. Who can split whose caucus? That will be the art form in this Congress, and part of the test of Mr. Livingston's leadership.

—THE WASHINGTON POST

EU's Journey to the Future Might Take Much Longer

By Roy Denman

LONDON — Negotiations on the enlargement of the European Union began Tuesday with the first wave of applicants from Eastern and Central Europe — the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland and Slovenia — and from Cyprus. Preparations for negotiations are an onerous task, a second, less-advanced tier: Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Romania and Bulgaria.

Much has been expected of these negotiations. Some claim the reunification of Europe half a century after the Yalta Conference sealed its division between East and West.

Others point to the massive reinforcement the European Union will receive: its membership will rise from 15 to 25 — 26 if the tensions between the Turkish and Greek sides on Cyprus is overcome — and its population will increase from 373 million to 467 million, dwarfing that of the United States.

Many rejoice that this expansion will force the EU to streamline its machinery rapidly and overhaul some of its wasteful policies. The scale of these benefits, the perennial optimism of the human race and the fact that the screening process got off to a good start have encouraged talk in Brussels of a target date

far admission of the first wave around 2002 or 2003.

Anyone who believes in this timetable would believe in the Wizard of Oz.

To begin with, who in the EU really wants enlargement? Tony Blair has been particularly eloquent and has placed enlargement high on British priorities for Europe. Germany has long been keen on bringing into the EU its traditional Central and Eastern European markets. And it was only to be expected that Denmark, Sweden and Finland would support the admission of their Baltic neighbors.

But everyone in Brussels suspects that the British want enlargement to make the EU so unwieldy as to be unmanageable and in destroy the Common Agricultural Policy.

Moreover, Britain, like Sweden and Denmark, will not be in the inner circle of European decision-making while they are outside the single currency. It is German influence, at the heart of euroland, that will be far greater.

Now Gerhard Schroeder, the new German chancellor, is uneasy about a flow of low-paid labor from the East, and he will be concerned even more than his predecessor about how much

Germany will have to pay.

Indeed, finance remains a major problem for a number of EU members. The European Commission has reckoned that the EU will not need to spend more than 1.27 percent of its gross national product, its current expenditure limit, even if five or more new members join in the next few years. This looks like the original cost estimates for the Channel Tunnel. The total GNP of all potential entrants from the East at present amounts to little more than half that of the Netherlands.

For these countries to survive in a huge, fiercely competitive, price-transparent economy would be as difficult as Peru and Ecuador facing complete integration into the United States. After nine years of pumping in 5 percent of German GNP into what was East Germany, those Länder would still not be viable if they were independent states. The cost of bringing all 10 new entrants from Central and Eastern Europe up to Western standards would be huge.

Shrewdly, the French have seen this. They are small net contributors to the EU budget and are determined not to become major ones. So they have already asked the European Commission to draft a full "political" assessment of the

enlargement negotiations, a move interpreted by the Commission as a bid to slow the negotiations. This is bound to be supported by the member states who benefit most from structural funds in the EU budget — Spain, Portugal, Italy, Ireland and Greece.

But it is Germany that faces the biggest problems with the financing of enlargement. If agricultural levies and import duties (two elements on the income side of the EU budget) are ignored — on the grounds that these revenues are due directly to the EU and not to the individual member states — then the picture of relative contributions becomes radically different and even more in Germany's disfavor than the figures recently released by the Commission.

Based simply on the other two elements used to finance the budget — a share of the value-added tax collected and a share of GNP — then Germany is revealed as the only substantial net payer by a huge margin. Its real net contribution in this calculation in 1996 was a colossal 7.4 billion ECU, compared with the next largest, the Netherlands, with a net contribution of less than one billion ECU. In addition Germany has had to meet the heavy cost of its own reunification. So Germany

has already announced it will press for a new pattern of financing the EU budget. And it will not be the only one wanting an end to the generous rebate enjoyed by Britain.

The scene is set for a long and bitter struggle. Finance is by no means the only headache of enlargement. Agriculture, unfair competition, free circulation of low-cost labor and border controls of the new member states will be among the many problems to be faced. The trouble with high-falootin rhetoric is that when it meets reality it can lead to despair.

There is no need to despair about ending the division of Europe. Formidable though the problems are, they are not insurmountable. But reconstruction after half a century of communism will take longer than the speechmakers have proclaimed. The first wave may not be full members for another 10 years; the second wave substantially later.

It is always well, before embarking on a journey, to have a realistic idea of how long it will take.

The writer is a former representative of the European Commission in Washington. He contributed this comment to *The International Herald Tribune*.

Poisonous Words in Russia

Economic conditions in Russia are bound to produce unsettled politics. But no economic troubles could excuse a resurgence of anti-Semitism. This is a poison with a long pedigree in Russia, but one that has been blessedly missing for the most part in the cauldron of post-Soviet politics. Not it is, at least for the moment, back in the mix.

Albert Makashov, a retired general, Communist extremist and leader of a 1993 rebellion against President Boris Yeltsin, said last month that "jids" should be blamed for Russia's economic collapse. Given the source, the comment was not a surprise. What was worrying was the flabby response from the Communist Party and its leader, former and perhaps future presidential candidate Gennadi Zyuganov. The party's refusal to condemn the hateful rhetoric is hardly compatible with its desire to be seen as a modern, social democratic party deserving of respect.

It's a good sign that the strongest condemnations of Mr. Makashov's remarks have come from inside Russia, starting with a firm statement from Mr. Yeltsin himself. Some critics have gone too far, though, demanding that

the Communist Party now be banned. Russians have convincingly and repeatedly demonstrated that they do not want a return to communism. The party attracts perhaps a fifth of the electorate in opinion polls, and its demonstrations, even at a time of extreme hardship, draw pitiful crowds. But in deny that fifth of the electorate its place at the political table would neither suppress anti-Semitism nor serve the interests of democracy.

To a large extent, the latest fracas in Moscow must be seen in the context of electoral politics. Mr. Yeltsin, ailing and absent from day-to-day governing, is no longer much of a factor. Parties and candidates are jockeying for position for an election scheduled for 2000. This campaign is taking place in a painful environment of falling incomes, rising inflation and broken hopes, under the guidance of a government that seems to have no idea how to begin to right the economy. All this will stress tolerance and civility as never before. So far, Russia's young democratic institutions are holding. They deserve Western encouragement.

—THE WASHINGTON POST

The Republicans' Luck: Chance for a Course Correction

By James K. Glassman

WASHINGTON — The cover of this week's *Economist* features a picture of a beaming Bill Clinton and the headline "Oh Lucky Man." Another lucky beneficiary of the Nov. 3 election is a tall congressman from Louisiana named Bob Livingston, who appears certain to become the next speaker. But luckiest of all may be the Republicans themselves.

The results could not have been better. While the Republicans lost five seats in the House, only the second such midterm failure since the Civil War, and picked up nine in the Senate, the party still retained control of Congress, and its near-death experience led to:

(1) The departure, at long last, of Newt Gingrich, who was fine as a revolutionary but, like Robespierre, miserable as a leader.

(2) The understanding that to win elections Republicans have to stand on a true agenda — specifically, cutting taxes and holding down spending.

(3) The conclusion that the religious right is a paper tiger — unable even to re-elect governors in South Carolina and Alabama. The political power of Christian conservatives is a long-running myth, perpetrated not just by the right but also by Democrats seeking to frighten the vast majority of Americans.

wrongly believed, by the Monica Lewinsky scandal.

But the biggest mistakes for the Republicans involved policy. They went along with bolstering outlays by \$21 billion, failed to pass a tax cut, surrendered on financing the International Monetary Fund and set terrible precedents such as using federal dollars to hire teachers and subsidize farmers.

As Appropriations Committee chairman, Mr. Livingston bears some of the blame. The question now is whether he has learned the lesson that Newt Gingrich did not. Mr. Livingston claims he was dragged kicking and screaming to capitulation last month. Still, he admits he would have spent \$10 billion of the surplus, rather than \$21 billion. He also supported the highway bill, a veritable banquet of pork.

His main complaints about Mr. Gingrich involved management. The speaker, he told me, set a schedule this year that guaranteed disaster. With not enough time to pass spending bills, Mr. Gingrich, fearing another government shutdown fiasco, caved in to the president. Meanwhile, Mr. Livingston says, the House stayed in session so long that Republicans did not have time to campaign.

Well, that is a tad disingenuous, coming from the only guy, besides Mr. Gingrich, who could have pushed through spending bills in the summer, allowing Republicans to sharpen their differences with Mr. Clinton without having to engage in a losing game of chicken in October.

Sure, Mr. Gingrich was no

manager and, despite his fondness for military history, no tactician. But his major failures were strategic: a failure to appreciate a few simple economic ideals, a belief that an issueless campaign could win, a failure to nerve in negotiating with Mr. Clinton and (fair or not) a lousy image with voters.

What about Bob Livingston? Does he have the right stuff? As someone who has known him for a quarter-century, I think so.

First, like Mr. Clinton, he has luck on his side. He was first elected to Congress after the Democratic victor in his state was sent to prison for vote fraud. He won a huge prize when, in 1995, appointed by Mr. Gingrich, he became chairman of the most powerful House committee even though he was far down in seniority. Earlier in this term, he decided to retire, then changed his mind. Meanwhile, Mr. Gingrich's lieutenants staged an abortive coup, and suddenly Mr. Livingston became the speaker's likely heir.

Second, Mr. Livingston is a true believer in free-market economics. Still, do not mistake him for Chris Cox, who bowed out of the race Sunday and whose views on limited government make him practically a libertarian.

Third, Mr. Livingston passes the tough-but-affable test. He loses his temper — though it is often just an act — but he is a genuinely friendly, open, optimistic guy who works well with Democrats. A pro-life Catholic, he has consistently resisted the pressures of social conservatives. And he showed in early spending battles that he has backbone.

The big problem is that Mr.

Livingston, at heart, is an appropriator, steeped in the culture of pork trading. He once told me that there were three categories of spending: things you need, things you do not need and things you would like to have. Unfortunately, with a budget surplus created by a flood of tax revenues, items in the "like to have" category can now be had.

In fact, "like to have" is the wrong criterion. The federal government has discrete functions, powers enumerated in the Constitution. It already does too much, and until this year any-

way, Mr. Livingston deserves some credit for trimming it.

My guess is that Mr. Livingston will be a good speaker, perhaps even a great one — but only if he sticks to economic principle. If he thinks the job is strictly managerial and if he gives free rein to his appropriator pals, then he will suffer the unpleasant fate of his late benefactor. And it will be richly deserved.

The writer, a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, contributed this comment to *The Washington Post*.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Heated Cabs

PARIS — "They who go down to the stumps in cabs" will be gratified to learn that M. Blanc, Prefect of Police, has taken serious measures to prevent the public from being suffocated by the vapor of burning charcoal or coke on the "voitures chauffées." The police have received instructions to see that the conditions required by the law are strictly complied with. The clause of the law is: "That charcoal or briquettes are not to be used to warm carriages; unless the apparatus containing those substances are so arranged that the gas caused by the combustion is given off outside the vehicle."

1923: Prince's Return

BERLIN — The former Crown Prince returned into the Fatherland, which he has not seen since his flight into Holland after

the defeat of the Imperial armies, exactly five years ago. As far as his journey through Germany is concerned, Chancellor Seeemann insisted only that he should travel in a closed car and proceed directly to the Hohenzollern estate in Silesia. The Crown Prince has also agreed formally to accept the regime of the German Republic as it is now constituted and engages not to attempt any political activities.

1948: Armed Typists

BERLIN — Those least bellicose of all public servants, the young ladies who push away endlessly at stenotype machines while people are making statements, have been ordered to carry firearms by authorities in the Soviet Zone of Germany. The stenotypists, employed by the east-zone police, have also been ordered to attend regular target practice sessions and must wear uniforms.

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OPINION/LETTERS

Celluloid Stereotypes of Islam: Thought-Provoking, or Dangerously Offensive?

By Edward Zwick

SANTA MONICA, California — "Insidious, incendiary and dangerous." That is how the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee has chosen to characterize my film "The Siege" in a letter sent to every major media outlet in the America. The group's objections are based on the film's depiction of radical Islamic terrorists who have chosen to attack the United States.

To shrink from any sensitive subject is to deny an important function of art.

What the critics are saying, as best as I can understand it, is that any portrayal of the life of Muslims that includes representations of violence — no matter how well documented — is not only offensive, but also inflammatory. Forget the World Trade Center and the embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania; their position, simply put, is that all 1 billion Islamic people in the world can be portrayed only in their most positive aspect.

Even though members of this group who saw "The Siege" have privately told me they were moved by the film, the organization's official position has been to attack it as promoting stereotypes, a stand also taken by other Arab-American groups.

But what, exactly, are these stereotypes? The Arab-American community is as diverse and divided against itself — politically, religiously, socially — as any vibrant community in the United States.

And this film portrays Arab-Americans as cops, landlords, people with families, community leaders — and, yes, terrorists. In fact, the film (in which growing fear leads to the wholesale internment of Arab-Americans) is about stereotypes, about what happens when stereotypes are played out to disastrous effect.

Beneath the objections of groups like the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, I sense a fear that

expect they will protest. They are used to it by now. The beauty of a pluralistic society, I have always been taught, is that it can contain the giving and taking of offenses.

This overheated chorus of lamentations began, tellingly, before the film was ever seen. But it is the job of an anti-discrimination organization to complain.

MEANWHILE

What I am trying to do as a filmmaker is to look at the world. And to write about what I see. To shrink from any subject because it is hurtful or politically sensitive or politically incorrect, or Islamically incorrect, is to deny one of the most important functions of art, which is to be provocative.

So, I'm sorry I offended anyone. But I'm really not.

Edward Zwick is a director, writer and producer whose films include "Glory" and "Legends of the Fall." He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

By Ibrahim Hooper

WASHINGTON — Producers of "The Siege" would have us believe that art is merely imitating life in the film's portrayal of crazed Muslims killing hundreds of innocent New Yorkers. I am afraid that it is life that may imitate art, however, as moviegoers are yet again introduced to Islam through a relentless barrage of terrorism and violence.

Yes, the film does have a few positive lines of dialogue about Islam. But it is far more effective at linking Islam to terrorism. For example, the ritual washing that Muslims must perform before praying is used to cue the audience to impending bloodshed.

In one instance this act of religious observance precedes a shot of a detonator being inserted into a bomb; another time, hand washing is quickly followed by a shot of a terrorist leader strapping explosives to his chest.

Other images, characters and juxtapositions give the impression that every Muslim student, business owner and activist should be considered a possible threat.

One Muslim whom the film initially portrays as cooperating with the U.S. government turns out to be a terrorist. The clear message is, "Doo! trust them." In defending the "Arab community," the character played by Denzel Washington says, "They love this country as much as we do."

Just who does he mean by "we" and who are "they"?

Most of the Muslims portrayed in "The Siege" also have total disregard for human life. They seek out the most vulnerable in society: children and the elderly. In his review of "The Siege," Roger Ebert of the Chicago Sun-Times wrote that "prejudicial attitudes embodied in the film are insidious, like the anti-Semitism that infected fiction and journalism in the 1930s — not just in Germany, but in Britain and America."

The producers say the film makes clear that the terrorist images and associations reflect only the lunatic fringe of the Muslim world.

This "fringe," however, is about the only segment of the Muslim population that most moviegoers have seen for decades.

Consider the ruthless Muslim skyjackers of "Executive Decision" and the fanatical Arabs who detonated a nuclear warhead in the Florida Keys in "True Lies." When American Muslim groups took their complaints about "True Lies" to 20th Century Fox, the studio only lacked a brief disclaimer onto the end of the credits stating that the film did not represent the actions or beliefs of a particular culture or religion.

Much of the negative reaction to "The Siege" could have been avoided if American Muslim organizations had been consulted from the beginning. My organization became involved only after concerned Muslims in New York called our Washington office inquiring about "Islamic graffiti" being used by film crews in their neighborhoods.

We met with Edward Zwick, the director, and Lynda Obst, his co-producer, but they decided to alter

only a few scenes that we found offensive.

Throughout our discussions, they insisted that "The Siege" dispelled stereotypes rather than reinforced them and that the movie took pains to make a case for preserving people's civil liberties.

But it seems likely that the average moviegoer may be slow in getting that message. One critic noted that at a preview screening, the audience cheered as the military officer played by Bruce Willis "tortured a suspect

Moviegoers are introduced to Islam through a relentless barrage of terrorism.

and then calmly shot him." I am not saying that people will leave theaters and attack the next Muslim they see. The reality of life for American Muslims is more complex than that.

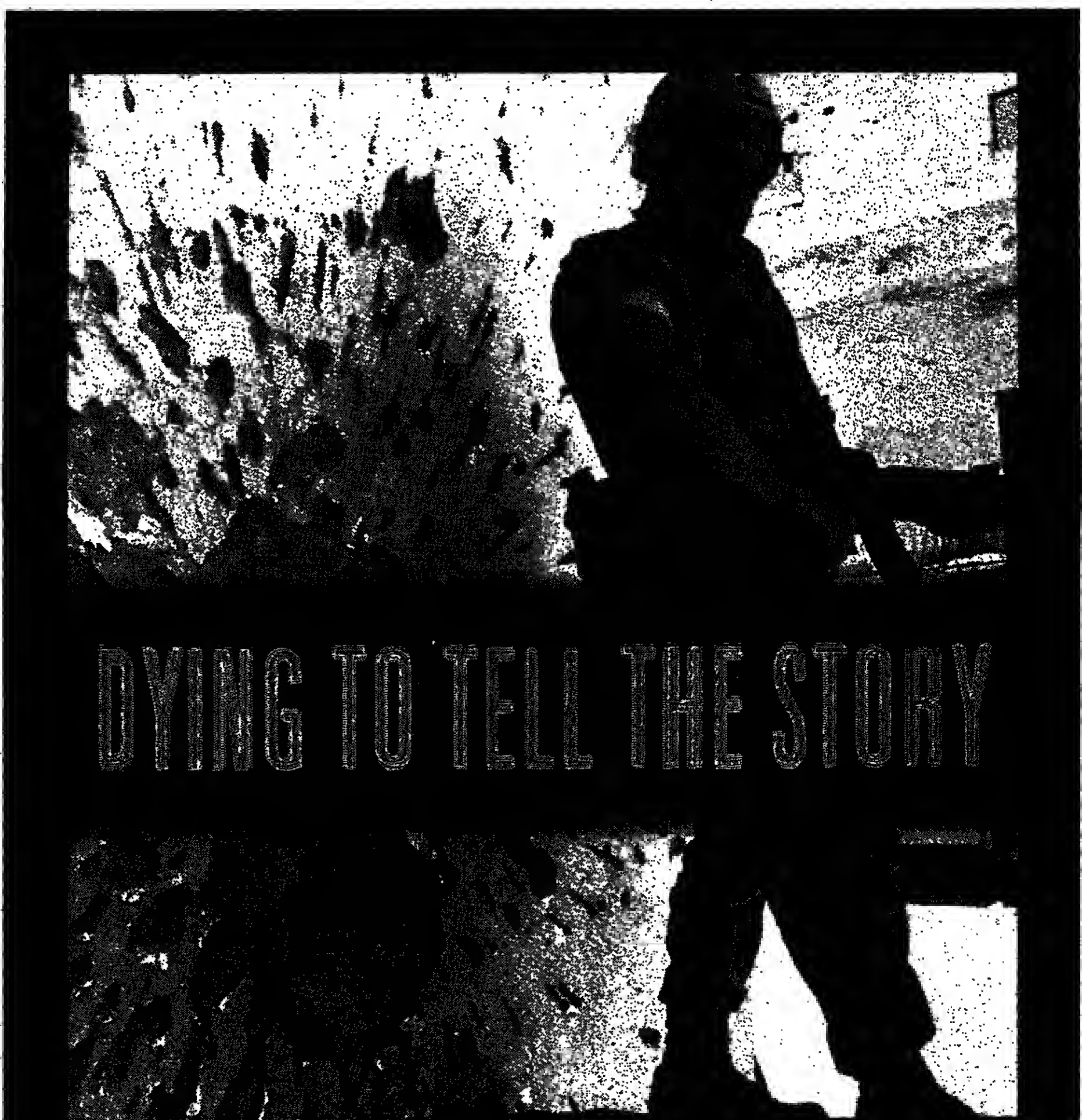
There have been random arson attacks on American

mosques and assaults on our children. But we also feel the accumulated ugliness of prejudice every day. At work or on the street, Muslims are the target of taunts about being terrorists. Muslim women who wear head scarves routinely face job discrimination. Muslims are frequently stopped for "random" security checks at airports.

In response to Muslim and Arab criticism of the film, Mr. Zwick has said that anti-defamation groups are in the business of seeing defamation everywhere. One has to wonder whether he would have said the same thing about the Anti-Defamation League or the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Movies that reinforce the stereotypes of Muslims are still seen by much of America as a reflection of reality, not as the gross simplifications that they are.

Ibrahim Hooper is the national communications director for the Council on American-Islamic Relations. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.



DYING TO TELL THE STORY

What drives journalists to put their lives on the line?
A special two hour documentary on CNN International.

Dying To Tell The Story centres on the life and death of Dan Eldon, a 22-year-old Reuters photographer who, along with three other journalists, was stoned to death in Somalia in 1993.

His sister Amy takes a journey back to Somalia to understand the reasons for her brother's death and to learn why other journalists choose such dangerous assignments. The programme features interviews with frontline journalists including Christiane Amanpour and Martin Bell as well as photo-journalists Mohammad Shaffi and Carlos Mavroleon.

Dying To Tell The Story will be broadcast on CNN International on Friday December 4th at 22.00 CET and again on Sunday December 6th at 20.00 CET.



AVAILABLE ON CABLE AND SATELLITE



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vox Populi Is Heard

The clamor to place blame for the Republicans' election debacle appears to ignore what was surely a major factor in their lack of voter support. While it is true that Newt Gingrich was calling the shots as the Starr report and the video of Bill Clinton's testimony were launched into the realm of "infotainment" with the clear aim of damaging the president, Mr. Gingrich apparently had 100 percent backing from his colleagues.

The Republicans' claims that the voices of U.S. voters are now coming through loud and clear so far have not been accompanied by an apology to the people and to the president for their participation in the most repulsive piece of partisan politics of this century.

JOE WILLIAMS,
Düsseldorf.

By Any Other Name

Every Channel-crossing Frenchman, his self-confidence destroyed by having to get off the train at Waterloo Station ("Will Britain Face Its Waterloo Over Namesake Train Station?" Nov. 6), would stand tall again if the Britons simply added a byphen, changing the name of the terminal to Water-Loo.

ROBERT A. KLEIN,
Geneva.

Now that the people have spoken, dare we hope that the editorial writers of The New York Times and The Washington Post will let up a bit on Bill Clinton? The one-sidedness of their pronouncements in the Monica Lewinsky case has deeply offended many readers: unrelenting criticism of the president, insufficient concern about the special pro-

secutor's inquisitorial tactics. As wiser commentators such as Anthony Lewis have understood from the outset, these tactics do far greater harm to American democracy than do Mr. Clinton's lies about his private life.

CHRIS G. PETROW,
Neuilly-sur-Seine, France.

Apparently the outcome of the election came as a surprise to many in the United States.

I was not surprised. As a student at Princeton University in the mid-1950s, I witnessed the decline and fall of Senator Joseph McCarthy.

The cathartic ability of American society, when things have gone too far, is indeed astounding — and reassuring.

OLE BIERING,
Copenhagen.

INTERNATIONAL

A 'Gay Mafia' in Whitehall? Sex Is Back in the Headlines in Britain

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Since Christine Keeler's affair with John Profumo almost brought down a government in 1963, sex has been a staple of British political life, selling newspapers by the millions and striking fear into the hearts of cabinet ministers.

After a brief interlude at the start of Prime Minister Tony Blair's government, sex has stormed back into the headlines in the last two weeks, with the resignation of one cabinet minister after an unexplained incident in a gay cruising area and the subsequent "outing" of two other senior ministers as homosexuals.

The events have shown that the rules of the game are changing. The two ministers have stayed in their jobs with strong support from Mr. Blair and other cabinet colleagues, and the largely indifferent public reaction suggests that Britons are taking a cue from the American response to President Bill Clinton's affair with Monica Lewinsky.

But the developments have sparked public

debate about the role of homosexuals in government, and it is a sign of the morally ambiguous times that politicians remain unsure of how to deal with sex even as they insist that private lives be kept separate from public policy.

The media frenzy — led by the tabloid Sun — and the government's attempt to respond to it, "shows that good old-fashioned English hypocrisy," said David Allison, a spokesman for the gay activist group Outrage. "The English have never accepted sexuality, or for that matter sex, as something that is O.K."

The sex debate began when Ron Davies, then minister for Wales, was robbed of his car and wallet after meeting a stranger in a London park known as a cruising area for gay sex. Mr. Davies, who is married and has a daughter, has denied any sexual activity was involved, although the police reportedly are investigating whether he was blackmailed after seeking sex.

Whatever happened, Mr. Blair obtained Mr. Davies's resignation even before news of the incident became public. The move recalled the demand by Mr. Blair's aides last year that Foreign Secretary Robin Cook choose his wife or

his mistress before the press got hold of his affair. (He divorced his wife and married his mistress).

To critics, the Davies resignation suggested that the government either knew more than it let on, or showed a puritanical unwillingness to tolerate even the whiff of scandal.

Reverberations quickly spread when Matthew Parris, a political columnist who happens to be homosexual and a former Conservative member of Parliament, announced during a television interview that Trade Minister Peter Mandelson was "certainly gay."

Mr. Mandelson has declined to comment on his personal life, despite some surprising encouragement to do so from The Sun, the tabloid that built its reputation on sex and scandal.

"The British people will not turn on Mandelson because he is gay," the newspaper said in an editorial.

Last weekend, however, Agriculture Minister Nick Brown announced his homosexuality and gave details of one former relationship after The Sun's sister title, the News of the World, threatened to expose the relationship. And on

Monday, The Sun called on Mr. Blair to disclose the number of homosexuals in government under the front-page headline, "Are we being run by a gay Mafia?"

The government swung to Mr. Brown's defense, and Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott deplored some papers for acting like "judge, jury and executioner."

Other analysts ridiculed the notion of a gay ring inside the government, noting that Mr. Brown's only previous claim to notoriety was being the close ally of Mr. Mandelson's arch-enemy, Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The majority of Britons also appeared unperturbed. A poll published in The Guardian newspaper on Tuesday found that 56 percent of respondents considered homosexuality morally acceptable, and 52 percent said it was acceptable for ministers to be openly gay.

"It's rather like the situation in the States," said Colin Wappat, the Labour Party secretary in Nick Brown's constituency of East Newcastle. "People are trying to dig the dirt on individuals, but we want to keep our private lives private." In spite of a call by Lord Tebbit that ho-

mosexuals be banned from sensitive ministries like the Home Office, even the Conservative Party has refused to score points on the issue, reflecting the desire of its leader, William Hague, to soften the party's image and reach out to minority groups.

"The public has been more sensible than the media," said deputy leader Peter Lilley. "They don't imagine that politicians are very different on average from the rest of the population, or are there to be a role model."

And yet the headlines persist. The latest right-wing argument against Mr. Blair's Labour Party is that it is too "metropolitan," a code-word for libertine social attitudes deemed objectionable by the mainstream.

When a Daily Telegraph columnist, Tom Utley, wrote 10 days ago that he found homosexuality "naughty and wrong," the paper said it received 600 letters supporting his views and only 10 opposed.

"I don't think people are queer bashers," said Charles Moore, editor of The Daily Telegraph, "but I do think people are mildly anti-homosexual."

GERMANY:
Schroeder Issues Call

Continued from Page 1

amazed to find debts amounting to \$600 billion, far greater than they had assumed. He said interest payments alone would consume 1 out of every 4 Deutsche marks in tax income, requiring further austerity steps.

His plans were immediately attacked by the conservative opposition, which claimed that Mr. Schroeder was exaggerating the situation to justify his failure to come up with a sound budget.

"All style and no substance," said Wolfgang Schäuble, Mr. Kohl's successor as head of the Christian Democrats. He called the government's program "badly prepared and remarkably vague on content."

Business leaders have also criticized the lack of audacity in Mr. Schroeder's economic program.

Hans Olaf Henkel, head of the Federation of German Industry, has warned that the failure to provide sufficient tax relief could accelerate the flight of investment capital out of Germany, thus worsening the unemployment problem.

Mr. Schroeder said his government would reduce income and corporate taxes by nearly \$9 billion over the next four years. He vowed to summon employers and trade union leaders soon in an "alliance for jobs" that he described as the government's key weapon to fight unemployment and rebuild a broad social consensus that made Germany the world's third-largest economic power.

Throughout the election campaign, Mr. Schroeder emphasized his reputation as a pragmatic Social Democrat who knew how to work with business. But with much political clout concentrated in the hands of Oskar Lafontaine, the party chairman and finance minister who is widely considered a dogmatic leftist, Mr. Schroeder's rhetoric about working with the private sector to modernize the German economy has fallen well short of reality.

Faced with such constraints at home, Mr. Schroeder has turned his attention to fighting Germany's economic problems at a European level. He has quietly urged greater cooperation from Europe's central banks in loosening their tight money policies, but he distanced himself from Mr. Lafontaine's public challenge that central banks should cut interest rates immediately to bolster growth.

Instead, Mr. Schroeder said the independence of the central banks "will



Finance Minister Oskar Lafontaine, left, and Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer congratulating Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, right, following his inaugural speech before the German Parliament on Tuesday.

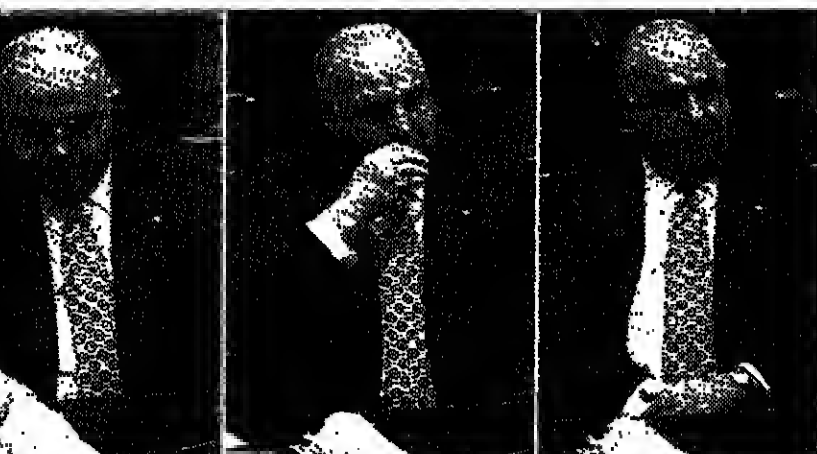
naturally be respected and protected," as Germany and 10 other partners move toward a single European currency starting next year. "The common currency must be a success. That means it must be and must remain stable," he said.

While urging a coordinated European approach to create jobs, possibly through such public works projects as the building of new high-speed road and rail networks, Mr. Schroeder said Germany's financial troubles would also require changes in the way the European Union spends and collects its money.

And, he said that Bonn would no longer tolerate paying contributions that amount to 70 percent of the EU budget.

Although his two-hour discourse was largely devoted to looking at ways to invigorate Germany's sluggish economy, Mr. Schroeder put special emphasis on his intention to sustain continuity in Germany's foreign and security policies after the government is transferred next year to Berlin from Bonn.

"To some people, Berlin sounds too



Former Chancellor Helmut Kohl eating chocolate during Mr. Schroeder's address.

Prussian, too authoritarian, too centralized," he said. "Our totally nonaggressive vision of a 'New German Republic' stands as the exact opposite of this."

Mr. Schroeder's ascendancy as the first German chancellor with no connection to World War II and the shift in Germany's center of gravity when the capital moves from the sleepy Rhineland town to this metropolis 88 kilometers

(55 miles) from the Polish border has raised anxiety among many of the country's traditional allies who fear its potential impact on Germany's priorities and allegiances.

But Mr. Schroeder went out of his way to stress that his government wanted to maintain the present equilibrium of friendly ties with major allies and all nine of its immediate neighbors.

D'ALEMA: Call to Reinterpret Maastricht

Continued from Page 1

the homework that Chancellor Kohl assigned to us. We brought public spending under control. We lowered inflation. We were good, and now the European economy and the European people deserve to be rewarded."

In the interview, Mr. D'Alema also made these points:

- He echoed calls by German government officials for lower interest rates, saying "it would be reasonable for the Bank of Italy to cut rates by half a percentage point as soon as our 1999 budget law is approved in Parliament."

- He called for discussions between the European Union and the United States that would lead to an agreement to limit the volatility of exchange-rate fluctuations between the dollar and the euro.

- He said the International Monetary Fund and World Bank needed "more political guidance" and needed to be more proactive and less restrictive in their policy prescriptions.

- He announced plans for a new package of labor-cost reductions and tax incentives to favor business investment in Italy's depressed South, saying his government hoped to unveil these "early in the New Year."

Asked to comment on German proposals to establish a global system of targeted exchange rates to reduce the turbulence in currency markets, Mr. D'Alema said, "It would be illusory to think of a system that is too rigid, but on the other hand a completely unregulated system would also be dangerous."

Instead, he called for a smaller-scale agreement between the United States and Europe, saying, "It is necessary to have an accord because if we have too much oscillation between the dollar and the euro, it would be destabilizing. We want a stable euro, not an overvalued euro."

Mr. D'Alema termed the global economic crisis "worrying, above all because it shows the fragility of the system and because not all of its effects have filtered through."

He said much would depend on whether Brazil's social-security program "holds" as the government adopts austerity measures, and on whether Brazil can avoid a currency devaluation.

How long it will take for Japan's fiscal stimulus and bank rescue measures to induce recovery will also be critical questions, he said.

The IMF and World Bank, he said, had played an important role in the response to the financial crisis, but now needed "a less monetarist approach" and a more proactive strategy to countries' facing problems. In the case of the Asian crisis, Mr. D'Alema said there had been times when "the sick patient had the flu, but they amputated the foot," a reference to the rigid financial discipline imposed on these economies in return for fund bailouts.

Turning to domestic affairs, Mr. D'Alema said he wanted "to shake up the economy, to give it fresh impetus. The investment climate here is depressed, also in psychological terms."

Mr. D'Alema's aides have conceded in recent days that weak domestic demand and the effects of the global crisis mean that the Italian economy will grow by less than the 1.5 percent official forecast.

In the interview, Mr. D'Alema announced his intention to introduce a new package of measures, by February or March, that would reduce labor costs and provide tax incentives aimed at stimulating investment and job creation in southern Italy.

Acknowledging that employer contribution charges are too high, Mr. D'Alema said, "This government is aiming to reduce the cost of labor, and that is one of our most important goals."

He promised that the new package of measures, which will become part of a social pact he is hoping to seal among the government, trade unions and industry, would also include "new ways to cut down on red tape and bureaucracy for business, to simplify the life of entrepreneurs."

Asked to respond to calls by the Bank of Italy and Italian industry to make fresh cuts in the state pension system, Mr. D'Alema balked, saying, "There will come a time to review the pension reform we did in 1995, but we also need to preserve social harmony."

He said Italian unions had been "among the most responsible in all of Europe," and he cited as proof a 1993 accord that has kept wage increases below the rate of inflation.

"We are now trying to renew the 1993 agreement. Why should I stick my fingers into the eyes of the workers at this moment?" he said.

"I understand everyone's position, but we need to keep social harmony because the cost of social conflict could be higher than the cost of pensions."

WAL-MART: Germans Fear New Rival

Continued from Page 1

company's profit for the first nine months of its financial year to a record \$2.87 billion, up 28 percent from a year earlier.

"By no means can we afford to underestimate Wal-Mart," said Günter Fergen, a board member at the German discount retailing chain Lidl & Schwarz GmbH. "They are flexible and want to expand."

Since the Wertkauf deal, Germans have been speculating about where Wal-Mart will strike next, betting on further acquisitions in Germany as well as elsewhere in Europe. Because Wal-Mart already is the biggest discount retailer in both Canada and Mexico, it is not expected to settle for being a niche player in Europe.

Promoting its plans to open 70 to 80 one-stop shopping centers outside the United States next year, Wal-Mart does little to blunt the rumors, although the secretive company declines to comment on concrete plans. Wal-Mart invites speculation by saying that it aims for about 30 percent of its earnings growth in the next three to five years to come from outside the United States. It posted a 12 percent jump in sales in 1997, to \$105 billion.

Aggressive price competition is new to Germany. Regions where Wertkauf operates its supermarkets "most certainly" have been under pressure to reduce prices and lure customers with new services, said Hubertus Pellinger, spokesman for the German Retailers Federation, which is known as the HDL.

"We dropped prices on more than 15,000 items at Wertkauf," said Dale Ingram, a spokesman for Wal-Mart's six-year-old international division. Others were forced to catch up.

Price wars erupted at an inauspicious time for the country's long-suffering retailers, who have seen sales and market share slump each year since 1992, the association said. The contraction continued in the first half of this year.

Sales at Wertkauf, which were 2.5 billion Deutsche marks (\$1.5 billion) before the takeover, have risen, said Mr. Ingram, adding that the parent company

would not break out sales figures for the new subsidiary.

Wal-Mart boasts that it expects to thrive amid the seismic social changes that have beset other stores since the 1990 unification and its huge costs. As nearly any storekeeper here can attest, shopping behavior changed dramatically as the nation lurched from pre-unification affluence to austerity.

Discounters now rank as the only niche of the German retail sector to grow, according to the HDL. Specialty stores, supermarkets, department stores and clothing vendors all saw their sales drop or stagnate in the first half of the year, the federation said. Food retailers post average profit margins of just 0.7 percent, a trade group reported.

Germans, once eager to preserve Old World traditions of small shopkeepers, can now be found crowding the vast parking lots at supermarkets.

"People want to save money and stretch the family budget as far as they can," Mr. Ingram said. "They come in and save money and then come back."

"Like everywhere in Germany, there is a trend for mom-and-pop to be squeezed," said Keith Wills, a retail analyst in London with Goldman, Sachs & Co., referring to small family-owned stores. By making its European debut in Germany, Wal-Mart — deliberately or not — invaded the home turf of Metro AG, which by its own estimate is the world's second-biggest retailer in terms of sales, after Wal-Mart.

A Metro spokesman said the company felt little pressure from the new U.S. competition. An acquisition binge of its own is expected to raise Metro's 1998 sales to about 94 billion DM from 64 billion DM last year.

But the German business magazine Capital reported that Metro had cut prices on 3,000 goods in its Real supermarkets, unleashing similar cuts by rivals.

And while Wal-Mart's earnings and sales have risen for 27 consecutive years, mirroring its proliferation of stores, Metro must contend with the same retail slump that plagues other German stores. Operating profit at Metro, based in Cologne, slid last year to 930 million DM



The arrival of Wal-Mart has forced retailers in Germany to cut prices.

from 1.06 billion DM in 1996. The company expects earnings to rise this year, mainly because of its new acquisitions.

Wal-Mart's almost fanatical discounting drive hardly fits German store-keeping tradition, raising fears that American-style factory-outlet shopping centers may become inevitable, industry executives said.

For decades, German law has sheltered small storekeepers with strict limits on competition. Sales are illegal except during uniform two-week periods twice a year. Stores' closing hours remain among the most restrictive in Europe. Rebates must be 3 percent or less. Even advertising language is regulated to keep competition at bay.

With its motto "Everyday Low Prices," Wal-Mart has a different game plan than the Germans. By importing its system of massive purchases, it can cut costs in purchasing and inventory in Europe. "The efficiencies reduce costs,

and so you can reduce prices," Mr. Ingram said. "It is a cycle. Lower prices push up sales, and as volumes go up, you can reduce prices some more."

Many of those efficiencies stem from Wal-Mart's almost legendary computer system, which it also has begun to introduce in Europe. Every cash register collects data, tracking buying patterns down to sizes and colors. Its stores rarely run out of popular items and seldom have unsold stock.

Computer trade journals report that Wal-Mart's database is second in size only to that of the U.S. government, a claim that Wal-Mart does not dispute.

Aggressive discounts at Wertkauf almost certainly have squeezed its profit margins, analysts said. But to Wal-Mart, that is just to get the discount spiral rolling. "We are in Europe for the long term and intend to grow," Mr. Ingram said, adding that Wertkauf remained profitable.

TRADE: U.S. Threatens EU Over Bananas

Continued from Page 1

U.S. trade representative warned that the sanctions could also be extended to EU service providers.

"The ball is in their court," said Jay Ziegler, a spokesman for the U.S. trade representative, Charlene Barshefsky. "We have done everything possible to work with the EU on these issues. We've seen no sign of a constructive response."

American officials said a final list of sanctionable products would be published in December after consultation with industry and that the tariffs would be imposed Feb. 1 unless the EU gave way. The officials estimated that the United States had suffered losses of more than \$1 billion because of the EU's banana regime, giving some indication of the value of the European products that could be hit in retaliation.

Speaking to reporters in anticipation of the threat, Sir Leon said the United States was acting outside the law and resorting to the principle of "might is right." He did not specify any countermeasures the EU might take, but his warning that Washington was "playing with fire" indicated that the row could erupt into the worst trans-Atlantic trade dispute in more than a decade.

Stating that this was a time for the United States and Europe to give strong, joint leadership in responding to global economic problems, Sir Leon said: "This is the worst possible moment to launch sanctions, on an issue of minor economic interest to the United States, against their biggest and closest trade and political partners."

The United States — which is trying to help American companies such as Chiquita Brands International Inc. and Dole Food Co. that grow bananas mostly in Latin America — says it has the law on its side, as it has already obtained judgments in its favor at the World Trade Organization. The European Union says it has made changes to bring its banana import regulations in line with the WTO ruling, but U.S. officials describe the changes as merely cosmetic.

Sir Leon said that if the United States

was still not satisfied, its proper course of action would be to appeal to the multilateral trade body. But he said, "We believe we would win."

He asserted that the dispute was not so much about bananas as about a U.S. decision to seek a unilateral remedy to a multilateral dispute. He said the Caribbean banana producers depended on exports to the European Union for their entire livelihoods.

"It can't be in the interests of the U.S. that poor economies with little alternative are driven into more dangerous activities such as drug-dealing," he said.

The European Union maintains that it has treaty commitments to banana-producing countries in Africa, the Pacific and, particularly, the Caribbean under the Lomé Convention.

It has limited tariff-free banana imports from these countries to 857,000 tons and increased the import quota of Latin American bananas by 353,000 tons a year, to 2.55 million tons, all at a duty of 75 European Currency Units (\$87.50) a ton. It says the new regime, scheduled to come into force Jan. 1, fully complies with World Trade Organization rules.

"The U.S. does not share our view about the WTO compatibility of the new regime," Sir Leon said. "It has the right to challenge this if it wishes, but only according to the WTO procedures established to deal with precisely this sort of disagreement."

Sir Leon accused the United States of reverting to "the law of the jungle" under pressure from the U.S. Congress.

Despite the tension, the United States and Europe agreed Monday on a "Trans-Atlantic Economic Partnership" that is designed to increase bilateral trade through joint recognition of each other's standards and regulations. Mr. Barshefsky said the agreement "will provide a foundation for progress for the multilateral trading system at a time of global economic uncertainty."

But Sir Leon said that if the United States went ahead with its plans to impose sanctions, it would "inevitably risk damaging broader economic and political cooperation," including implementation of the partnership.

Charting a Lost Continent

Paris Opera Revives the Unjustly Forgotten Zemlinsky

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THE AMERICAS

Intel Executive Tells of 'Terrifying' Threat by Microsoft

By Steve Lohr
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Microsoft Corp. repeatedly threatened its key industry ally, Intel Corp., as part of its campaign to stifle any challenge to its business posed by the rise of the Internet, according to court testimony by an Intel executive.

Steven McGeady, an Intel vice president, testified that Microsoft had threatened to pull back from supporting new Intel microprocessors unless Intel shelved its own software efforts and favored Microsoft over such Internet software rivals as Netscape Communications Corp. and Sun Microsystems Inc.

"It was clear to us that the threat was credible and fairly terrifying," Mr. McGeady testified Monday at the Microsoft antitrust trial.

Each generation of Intel's microprocessors — the electronic brain used in about 85 percent of personal computers — represents a huge investment. To work well, a new chip requires

that Microsoft refine its Windows operating system. So the prospect of any cooling in Intel's hand-in-glove relationship with Microsoft would be a serious concern for Intel.

The U.S. government backed up Mr. McGeady's testimony by introducing internal electronic mail from Intel and Microsoft. It also showed more excerpts from a videotaped deposition of Bill Gates, the Microsoft chairman.

The Justice Department's intent was to portray Microsoft as using its market muscle to retain its tight grip on the industry and to ensure that Microsoft set the pace of innovation.

"Basically," Mr. McGeady said, "Microsoft was concerned that things would get out of its control."

[According to evidence released Tuesday, Mr. Gates told Intel executives that "The Associated Press report will blow over." The Associated Press reported, Mr. Gates also told Intel executives that "we haven't changed our business practices at all," although he suggested — with apparently remarkable foresight — that

Microsoft might change its policies about how often to destroy internal e-mail. Mr. Gates' comments were captured in handwritten meeting notes introduced Tuesday as part of the government's case against Microsoft.

The portions of Mr. Gates' taped deposition shown in court centered on Microsoft's relationship with Intel, and they were shown to cast doubt on Mr. Gates' credibility. In each of the three instances when the government has played portions of 20 hours of videotaped questioning in August, Mr. McGeady's taped denials have been shown and then compared with witness testimony or e-mail from him or other Microsoft executives that seems to contradict his testimony.

On the tape shown Monday, David Boies, a government lawyer, asked Mr. Gates if he was aware of work by Intel on Internet software. Mr. Gates said, "I can't think of any."

On the stand, Mr. McGeady told of an Aug. 2, 1995, meeting at Intel headquarters, attended by senior executives from Microsoft and Intel,

including Mr. Gates and the chairman of Intel, Andrew Grove. Mr. McGeady said he briefed Mr. Gates and the others on the work Intel was doing on Internet software, mainly programming to make audio and video data sent over the Internet play faster and more smoothly.

Mr. Gates became very enraged, Mr. McGeady said, adding, "His view was that we were competing with Microsoft."

The Justice Department also introduced an internal Intel memorandum that Mr. McGeady wrote after the meeting. It said Mr. McGeady was livid about Intel's "investments in the Internet and wanted them stopped."

Microsoft has contended that the Justice Department is presenting a distorted picture of the Intel-Microsoft relationship and that Mr. McGeady is a disgruntled executive whose pet software projects were canceled for good business reasons. "We did not threaten to withhold support for Intel's new microprocessors, and we did not do it," said Carl Stock, general manager of the Windows division.

Internet Shares Gain, but Blue Chips Fall

Compiled by Our Staff From Dupages

NEW YORK — Internet-related stocks and other technology shares rose Tuesday, but the broader market fell as investors worried about the prospects for corporate earnings.

"We are just watching the Internet stocks go through the roof," said Doug Myers, vice president of equity trading at Interstate/Johnson Lane. Traders were speculating that on-line commerce will offer bigger profit increases than more traditional industries as the holiday shopping season approaches.

At the close, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 33.98 points at 8,863.98. The Standard & Poor's 500 index was down 1.96 points at 1,128.24. But the Nasdaq composite index, which includes many technology companies, was up 4.45 at 1,865.50.

Declining issues outnumbered advancing ones by a ratio of about 3 to 2 on the New York Stock Exchange.

There was little reaction to a report that U.S. worker productivity standards as well as inflation — rose 2.3 percent in the July-September period after rising just 0.3 percent the previous quarter. Sizable gains in productivity mean companies can pay workers more, hold the line on prices and still earn the kind of profits that keep stock prices rising.

The productivity report followed other recent signs of strength in the U.S. economy, a good sign for the

Christmas retail season. Internet stocks soared on optimism that the companies would benefit from a surge in on-line shopping and advertising revenue.

U.S. STOCKS

"It's probably going to be a breakout year for electronic commerce," said Mike Wallace, an analyst with Warburg Dillon Read.

Yahoo!, the largest Internet directory, rose 12 1/16 to 177 7/16. Amazon.com, the on-line book-

seller, rose 4 1/4 to 131 1/4. America Online, the largest on-line service, rose 5 1/16 to 145 1/16.

EBay, an on-line auctioneer, soared 27 1/4 to 130 1/4 after Rakesh Sood, an analyst with Goldman, Sachs & Co., raised his target price for the stock to \$150.

K-tel International rose 1 1/4 to 22 1/16, buoyed by an agreement to include its on-line music and home video service on a Microsoft Internet shopping service.

Oil-company shares fell on signs of lower demand. The International

Energy Agency this week slashed its estimate for fourth-quarter demand by 600,000 barrels a day. Exxon fell 1 1/16 to 70 5/16.

Du Pont, the biggest U.S. chemical company, fell 2 1/4 to 59 1/4. BASF of Germany, the biggest chemical company in Europe, said business in the third quarter fell short of expectations.

The prices of U.S. Treasury securities were flat, with the benchmark 30-year bond at 99 13/32; the yield stayed at 5.29 percent.

(AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

Gloom in Japan Helps Dollar Against Yen

Bloomberg News

NEW YORK — The dollar rose against the yen Tuesday amid expectations of continued weakness in the Japanese economy and as investors further scaled back expectations that U.S. interest rates will be cut soon.

Traders sold yen after the governing Liberal Democratic Party said it would present a supplementary budget to Parliament on Thursday that would include plans to issue gift certificates to spur consumer spending.

"People are afraid it's going to be another weak package," said Thomas Benfer, a director of foreign exchange at Bank of Montreal. The dollar "could rise to 125 yen" by the

end of the week, he said. In 4 P.M. trading Tuesday, it was at 122 3/8, up from 121 7/8 on Monday.

Reduced expectations that the Federal Reserve Board will cut interest rates, amid signs of solid U.S. growth, also continued to help the dollar against the yen.

"They'll defer further rate cuts," said Noel Mills, a money manager at Barclays Global Investors in London. "Much of the confidence has been restored." He said he saw the dollar rising to 130 yen in the next few months.

The dollar slipped against the Deutsche mark after Wim Duisen-

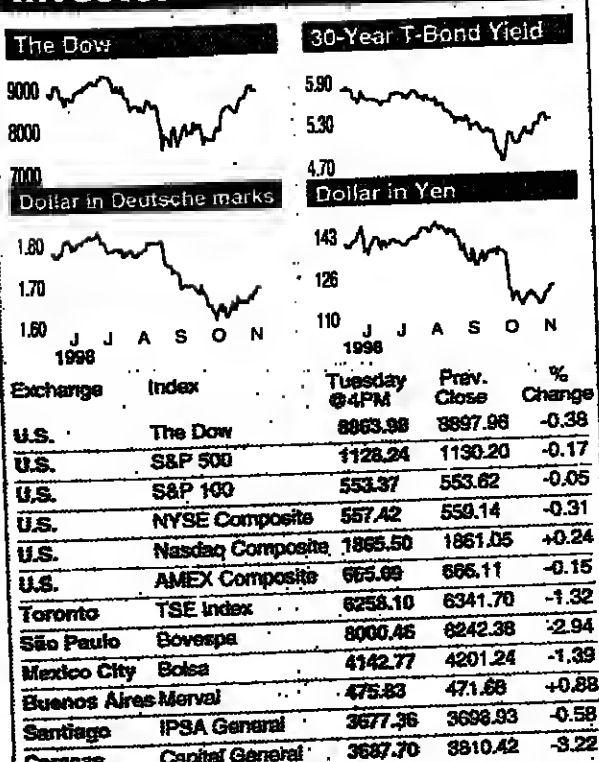
berg, president of the European Central Bank, said lower interest rates would not help fight unemployment in Europe. Traders took that as a sign that the benchmark rate for the 11 European countries adopting a common currency will not go below the current German level of 3.30 percent.

The European Central Bank will set monetary policy for the euro nations starting Jan. 1.

The dollar fell to 1.6838 DM from 1.6888 DM. Against other currencies, the dollar fell to 5.6467 French francs from 5.6586 francs and to 1.3885 Swiss francs from 1.3965 francs.

The pound fell to \$1.6590 from \$1.6630.

Investor's America



Source: Bloomberg, Reuters

Very briefly:

- General Motors Corp. will invest \$1.5 billion in engineering operations in Michigan as part of a consolidation aimed at cutting costs and creating new models more quickly. GM will combine more than 40 vehicle development sites into six large facilities over the next five years.
- Cia. Vale do Rio Doce of Brazil is the leader of a group that agreed to pay \$245 million for the state-owned Paulista Railway, doubling the railroad-transport network of the world's largest iron-ore mining company.
- Philips Industries Inc.'s Brazilian unit dismissed 448 of its 2,500 workers in response to falling demand for home appliances in Brazil, according to newspaper reports.
- CompUSA Inc.'s net income fell to \$8.1 million in its first quarter, which ended Sept. 26, from \$23.5 million a year earlier amid weak prices and sluggish sales.
- Eastman Kodak Co. is to cut hundreds of jobs at its copier assembly division because of slowing sales to its main customer, Danka Business Systems PLC.
- James Riady, owner of the Indonesian-based conglomerate Lippo Group, which has been accused of illegally channeling money to President Bill Clinton's re-election campaign in 1996, is selling Lippo Bank California to Commercial Bank of San Francisco for \$15.9 million, the banks announced.
- H.J. Heinz Co. is to cut 400 jobs and take a third-quarter charge of \$150 million to consolidate its frozen-food businesses.
- Seagram Co., based in Montreal, is to restructure its wine and liquor business by moving its top management to New York and focusing on its Chivas Regal and Crown Royal whiskeys.
- Phoenix Technologies Ltd., a software developer, plans to restructure by cutting its workforce about 5 percent, to 750 people, in an effort to reduce expenses as it moves to integrate its recent acquisitions of Aard Software International Inc. and Sand Microelectronics Inc. Bloomberg, Reuters, NY, APX

The Trib Index

Jan. 1, 1992 = 100	Level	Change	% Change	Year to date % change
World Index	164.68	-0.78	-0.42	+7.30
Regional Indexes				
Asia/Pacific	84.80	-0.84	-0.98	+11.73
Europe	211.57	-1.48	-0.69	+9.60
N. America	260.95	+0.41	+0.16	+20.64
S. America	92.95	-2.20	-2.31	-39.12
Industrial Indexes				
Capital goods	259.29	+2.10	+0.82	+25.52
Consumer goods	232.65	+1.50	+0.65	+10.93
Energy	192.40	-3.16	-1.62	-1.31
Finance	123.57	-1.82	-1.45	+0.50
Miscellaneous	188.64	-2.56	-1.35	+12.32
Raw Materials	166.95	-4.74	-2.83	+12.07
Service	174.17	-1.88	-1.07	+4.37
Utilities	174.17	-1.88	-1.07	+4.37

The International Herald Tribune World Stock Index tracks the U.S. dollar value of 290 internationally investable stocks from 28 countries. Compiled by Bloomberg News

AMEX

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

The 200 most traded stocks of the day, up to the closing on Wall Street. The Associated Press.

Stock	Price	High	Low	Open	Close
IBM	114 1/4	114 1/4	114 1/4	114 1/4	114 1/4
Microsoft	131 1/4	131 1/4	131 1/4	131 1/4	131 1/4
Amazon.com	137 7/16	137 7/16	137 7/16	137 7/16	137 7/16
Yahoo!	177 7/16	177 7/16	177 7/16	177 7/16	177 7/16
Google	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Apple	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Oracle	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Sun	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
HP	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Intel	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Motorola	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Qualcomm	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Verizon	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
AT&T	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
WorldCom	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Sprint	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Time Warner	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Home Depot	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Walmart	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Target	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Kroger	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Walgreens	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
CVS	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Costco	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Home Depot	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Walmart	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Target	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Kroger	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Walgreens	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
CVS	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Costco	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

Nov. 10, 1998

Index	High	Low	Open	Close
Dow Jones	8897.98	8863.98	8897.98	8863.98
S&P 500	1130.20	1128.24	1130.20	1128.24
Nasdaq	1861.05	1865.50	1861.05	1865.50
AMEX	666.11	665.09	666.11	665.09

Most Active

Stock	Price	High	Low	Open	Close
IBM	114 1/4	114 1/4	114 1/4	114 1/4	114 1/4
Microsoft	131 1/4	131 1/4	131 1/4	131 1/4	131 1/4
Amazon.com	137 7/16	137 7/16	137 7/16	137 7/16	137 7/16
Yahoo!	177 7/16	177 7/16	177 7/16	177 7/16	177 7/16
Google	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Apple	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Oracle	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Sun	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
HP	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Intel	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Motorola	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Qualcomm	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Verizon	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
AT&T	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
WorldCom	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Sprint	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Time Warner	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Home Depot	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Walmart	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Target	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Kroger	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Walgreens	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
CVS	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16
Costco	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16	22 1/16

Trading Activity

Advanced	251	251	251	NYSE	661 1/4
Deere	144	144	144	NYSE	368 1/4
IBM	114 1/4	114 1/4	114 1/4	NYSE	368 1/4
Value	24	24	24	NYSE	368 1/4
New York	9	9	9	NYSE	368 1/4
New York	11	11	11	NYSE	368 1/4

Dividends					
Company	Per Amt	Rec Pay	Company	Per	
IRREGULAR					
Central Elms Ecu	c. 14	11 16 11-27	Al Amer Trm	1A	
Germany Fd	c. 2.22	11 16 11-27	Am Fnd Grp	Q	
c. includes 1.51 from income and 2.66 from capital gains.			Windsor	Q	
New Growth Fd	c. 2.66	11 16 11-27	Eastl Woodside	Q	
c. includes 1.61 from income and 2.66 from capital gains.			Equity Inc AT&T	Q	
			Invest Corp	Q	
			Jeffrey Grp Inc	Q	
			Kerr-McGraw	Q	
			Kerr-McGraw	Q	
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			Kerr-McGraw	Q	

EUROPE

Bonn Flirts With New Borrowing in 1999

Bid Grows More Likely For Fokus

OSLO — A planned three-way merger of Norwegian banks appeared Tuesday to have fallen apart, improving the prospects of a bid for one of the banks by Handelsbanken AB of Sweden, the biggest bank in the Nordic region.

Fokus Bank AS, the target of Handelsbanken's overtures, and Christiania Bank AS said they had rejected a planned merger with state-owned Postbanken because it would have been too expensive to use the post office network to sell their products.

Instead, it appears that Handelsbanken may get a chance to establish a stronger presence in the Norwegian market.

"Handelsbanken's chances are dramatically bigger now," said Rodney Arfven, an analyst at Swedbank Markets. "The banking sector in Norway is in great need of restructuring to lift profitability."

Analysts said Handelsbanken's unsolicited bid for Fokus still faced big hurdles, especially the question of whether the Swedish concern could persuade holders of the required 90 percent of Fokus's shares outstanding to accept.

The Handelsbanken bid values Fokus at 5.1 billion Norwegian kroner (\$683.7 million).

"We'll support anything as long as it means consolidation," said Leif Eriksson, a manager at Delphi Fondforvaltnings, who holds Christiania shares. "No matter who they merge with, we're for it."

(Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP)

Market News

BONN — The governing Social Democrats of Germany are considering a drastic increase in new government borrowing — and a sharp increase in the budget deficit — next year to stimulate investments and to help cover potential shortfalls in the party's new fiscal plan, party members said Tuesday.

Social Democratic budget experts said party leaders were growing concerned about the impact of worsening economic prospects on the new government's policy performance next year.

Pressed by a tight electoral schedule for 1999 and the desire to deliver

quickly on their promise to put the jobless back to work, party policymakers are leaning toward widening the federal deficit to help create jobs.

The deficit had been pegged by the previous government at 56.2 billion Deutsche marks (\$33.28 billion).

Finance Minister Oskar Lafontaine, due to present his 1999 draft federal budget in mid-January, is "gravely worried" that the repercussions of the currency crises in Southeast Asia will lower exports and business profits next year, reducing tax receipts and badly curtailing his government's ambitious

plans for the first year in office, one official said.

The government acknowledged the changed economic outlook last week when it cut its forecast for gross domestic product growth to 2 percent in 1999, down from the previous administration's estimate of 2.8 percent.

Bonn wants to await the release of the annual economic report next week by its advisory panel — the so-called Five Wise Men — as well as tax revenue projections due Thursday before committing itself to new budget forecasts.

Another official said that he expected Mr. Lafontaine to claim "between 15 and 20 billion" DM more credits next year. He said the finance minister would spend the bulk on investment projects, such as Bonn's plan to move 100,000 young people back into the work force.

Party policymakers in the Finance Ministry say they hope the projects will fuel domestic activity and help bring about a rebound in federal tax inflows.

But one official said that Mr. Lafontaine would be "well-advised" if, after a year of running a large deficit, he returned to a more prudent fiscal policy to improve his standing with industry and with central bankers.

Dassault to Push Ahead With Share Deal

Bloomberg News

PARIS — Dassault Aviation SA said Tuesday it would move forward this week on its agreement to transfer the government's 46 percent stake in it to Aerospaciale SA, as France takes steps to consolidate its aerospace industry.

The transfer would give a lift to France's prospects of participating in a broader European merger of military contractors.

Dassault, maker of Mirage and Rafale military jets and Falcon business jets, said it would ask shareholders Thursday to approve the transfer of the government's shares into state-owned Aerospaciale. The move is expected to be approved.

The plan to fold the government's stake in Dassault into Aerospaciale was announced in July. However, some analysts said it could take

months to secure the backing of Serge Dassault, the company's chief executive and controlling shareholder. Mr. Dassault has said he will not oppose the plan.

France is determined to consolidate its defense holdings into a single company that the government hopes would then be an indispensable merger partner for British Aerospace PLC or Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG.

"The French seem to be moving heaven and earth" to ensure their participation in a three-way merger, said Sandy Morris, an aerospace analyst at ABN-AMRO in London.

BAE and Daimler-Benz Aerospace have said they will merge without Aerospaciale if France does not move quickly enough to remove itself as a shareholder in the defense industry. France has indicated it is willing to override labor-union opposition and sell its Aerospaciale stake gradually.

British Aerospace is eager to tap into Dassault's research and development and has agreed to jointly develop technology for future fighter planes.

plans for the first year in office, one official said.

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Booker's Shares Drop on Warning

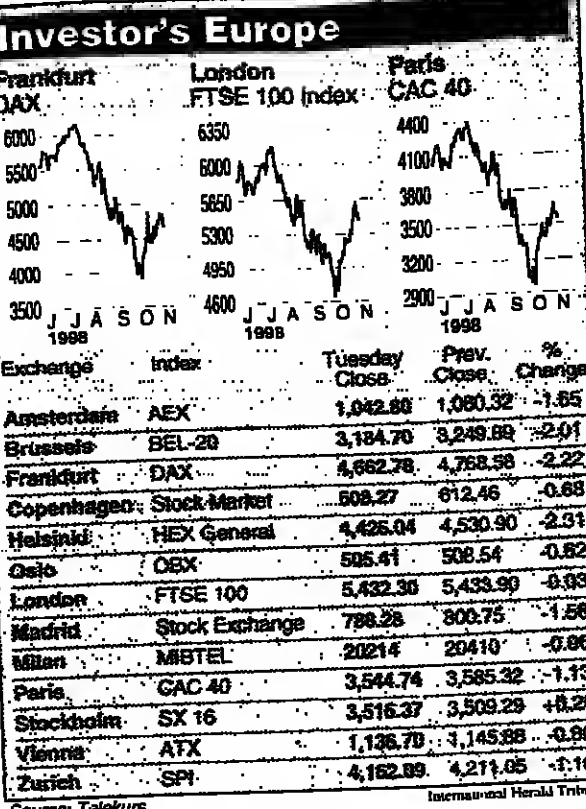
Reuters

LONDON — Booker PLC, the food company that also sponsors Britain's most prestigious literary award, issued its second profit warning in six months on Tuesday, sending its shares into a tailspin.

Booker shares closed 54.75 pence lower at 64.25 (\$1.07). The warning by the chief executive, Stuart Rose, who was appointed just five weeks ago in a mastermind turnaround, is the latest in a long line of setbacks for the company.

Booker warned that second-half pretax profit would be about £11 million, similar in first-half performance. If the forecast proves correct, Booker will turn in a full-year profit of £22 million, compared with £76.1 million the previous year.

"This is a disaster," one analyst said. "It just smacks of no management controls, no idea of what sales figures are doing or what costs are doing."



Very briefly:

- Seita SA, the French maker of Gauloises and Gitanes cigarettes, plans to reorganize its production and distribution network, shutting two plants and two or three regional offices with the loss of hundreds of jobs.
- Two Bundesbank council members, Helmut Hesse and Olaf Sievert, will step down at the end of the year as the German central bank prepares to yield its power over interest rates to the European Central Bank.
- The U.S. financier George Soros predicted during a visit to Ukraine that the world economy, buffeted for the past year by economic and currency crises in Asia and Russia, would take "a fairly long time" to recover after suffering "a lot of damage."
- Cable & Wireless Communications PLC had a 12 percent rise in pretax profit, to £73 million (\$121.1 million), in the six months that ended in September, helped by robust revenue growth in its business units. Revenue climbed 14 percent, to £1.26 billion.
- German vehicle production jumped 32 percent in October from a year earlier, to 583,200 units, as car exports surged.

Bloomberg, Reuters

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Tuesday, Nov. 10
Daily prices in local currencies.

Amsterdam	ASEX	1998	1999
ABN-AMRO	38.00	37.50	38.00
Alcoa	45.00	44.50	45.00
Alkermes	120.00	119.50	120.00
Amgen	120.00	119.50	120.00
Amstar	120.00	119.50	120.00
Amstar	120.00	119.50	120.00
Amstar	120.00	119.50	120.00
Amstar	120.00	119.50	120.00
Amstar	120.00	119.50	120.00
Amstar	120.00	119.50	120.00

Bangkok	SET	1998	1999
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00

Buenos Aires	Merval	1998	1999
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00

Copenhagen	Stock	1998	1999
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
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Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00

Frankfurt	DAX	1998	1999
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
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Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00

London	FTSE 100	1998	1999
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
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Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00
Adia	25.00	24.50	25.00

Europe's electricity markets are being opened for competition. Bayernwerk, our energy subsidiary, is taking advantage of this valuable opportunity.

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The data in the list above is the n.a.v. supplied by the fund groups to Standard & Poor's Market SA. It is selected and reformatted into the list below being presented to the HT Standard & Poor's Market and the HT do not warrant the quality or accuracy of the list, the data or the performance of listed of the Fund Groups and will not be liable for the loss of your money. The list is not and shall not be deemed to be an offer by the HT or Standard & Poor's Market to sell securities or investments. They are not intended to be used as such. Past performance does not guarantee future success. It is advisable to seek advice from a qualified independent adviser before investing.

Disney Struggles to Keep Investors Smiling as Profit Slumps

● **Commerzbank AG** is likely to outshine its German competitors when it posts nine-month earnings Wednesday, as it is less exposed to volatile investments than many rivals, analysts at Merck Finck & Co. said, adding that Commerzbank was expected to "significantly outperform" Deutsche Bank AG and Dresdner Bank AG. A Salomon Smith Barney analyst, Matthew Czeplewicz, said the bank's slowness in developing investment-banking operations had shielded it from serious losses in Eastern Europe.

"It is a further instrument at our disposal," IMA's chief executive officer, Alberto Vacchi, said.

AS - Australian Dollars; AS - Austrian Schilling;
Bf - Belgian Franc; C\$ - Canadian Dollar; D -
Deutsche Mark; Dd - Danish Kroner; Ds - US
Dollar; ECU - European Currency Unit; FF -
French Franc; Fl - Finnish Mark; Fl - Dutch
Guilder; £ - Pound Sterling; L - Lira; Lfr -
Luxembourg Franc; p - penny; S -
Malaysian Ringgit; Ps - Pesetas; S\$ -
Singapore Dollar; SF - Swiss Franc; Sg -
Swedish Krona; THB - Thai Baht; Y - Yen;

α - asked; α - Offer Price; N/A - Not Available;
N.G. - Not Communicated; N - Non - suspended;
R - rated; S - Ex-Gratuito; S - Ex-Gr -
Ex-Gratuito; S - Ex-Gratuito; S - Ex-Gratuito;
exchange; ++ - Amendment; exchange; S -
relocated; rated; α - not registered with
regulatory authority; P - Middle of bid and offered
price; E - estimated price; p - price calculated 2
days before maturity

The marginal symbols used are: frequency of
payments (a) - daily (b) - weekly (c) - bi-
monthly (d) - quarterly (q) - twice monthly;
(m) - monthly (y) - yearly;

ASIA/PACIFIC

U.S. Drafts a Plan to Help With Asian Debt

Bloomberg News
WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton may propose next week a plan to help Asian nations restructure corporate debt and recapitalize their banks, according to two presidential aides and a banking official close to the discussions.

The plan would be unveiled during the summit meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in Kuala Lumpur, the officials said.

"The U.S. has to put its own plan on the table that shows U.S. engagement and responsiveness to this crisis," said Ernest Bower, president of the U.S.-ASEAN Business Council, whose members include Chase Manhattan Corp., General Electric Co. and United Technologies Corp.

U.S. Treasury officials and Mr. Clinton's economic aides have been exploring with Asian nations and international banks ways to accelerate restructuring the foreign-currency debt of companies that have

been hobbled by the plunging value of their home currencies, the officials said.

Administration officials say no final decisions have been made about the size of any U.S. financial commitment.

Japan last month pledged \$30 billion to help the region's emerging economies promote trade and help businesses expand and restructure debt.

The Japanese finance minister, Kiichi Miyazawa, said he had not heard anything about the U.S. plan. If one were proposed, he said, "it would be welcomed."

A spokesman for Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi added that Tokyo would make new proposals at the APEC meeting, although he declined to discuss specifics of the plan.

"Prime Minister Obuchi will explain Japan is determined to recover the Japanese economy first and then try to play a leadership role in the Asian economic situation," the spokesman said.

Hiromu Nonaka, chief cabinet secretary, said Tokyo would attend the APEC meeting with a "resolution" to tackle regional economic issues.

The United States has long resisted the idea of setting up a standing fund in Asia that might compete with the International Monetary Fund and other global institutions, saying such a fund would promote regional blocs. Late last year, just before the most recent APEC summit meeting, the Clinton administration rejected a Japanese plan to set up a regional bailout fund.

Any effort now to relieve corporate debt would need to be enormous, said Bob Litan, a scholar at the Brookings Institution in Washington.

"It would have to be north of \$50 billion, and if they do this it would be a big deal," he said. "Let's face it, it's sorely needed."

Unlike in Latin America during the 1980s, most of the debt in East Asia is corporate rather than government debt, according to the In-

ternational Monetary Fund. More than 85 percent of the debt in South Korea, Malaysia and Thailand at the end of 1997 was corporate debt, it said, and much of that is owed to Japanese banks. The IMF has already organized bailouts totaling \$123 billion for South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia.

It is unclear how or whether the Clinton plan would fit in with the Japanese \$30 billion aid pledge. That proposal may include support for corporate restructuring efforts and help for governments to subsidize losses associated with lowering tariffs.

The president of the World Bank, James Wolfensohn, said in Tokyo that he was impressed with Japan's pledges to help revive its own and the region's economy. Japan accounts for about two thirds of Asia's total output of goods and services.

"The Japanese government should be getting a lot more credit than they are for a lot of these steps, which are tangible," he said.

Firm Rates Hit Markets Across Asia

Bloomberg News
SEOUL — Stocks tumbled Tuesday in some Asian markets, particularly South Korea, Singapore and Thailand, on concern that weakening currencies in the region would delay further cuts in interest rates, keeping many economies mired in recession.

In Seoul, the benchmark index dropped 21.21 points, or 5 percent, to 403.24, its biggest one-day decline in two months.

In Singapore, the Straits Times index fell 3.87 percent. In Thailand, the SET index was down 7.48 percent.

Asian stock indexes rose sharply last month — at least in dollar terms — amid a rally in the region's currencies.

Those currencies were helped by a half-point cut in U.S. interest rates. But signs of strength in the U.S. economy, which helped fuel a five-week rally in U.S. stocks, have now eased pressure on the Federal Reserve Board to push rates lower, taking the wind out of Asian currencies also.

When interest rates fall, investments denominated in that country's currency become less attractive.

"It wasn't fundamental changes in the economy that drove the currencies and markets higher — it was the rate cut by the U.S.," said Flavia Cheong, an investment manager at Aberdeen Asset Management Asia Ltd. in Singapore.

The decline in the yen against the dollar in the past week has triggered expectations that monetary authorities across Asia will have to keep interest rates high to discourage investors from selling their currencies.

The decline in Thai stocks was fueled by concern that a slower-than-expected decline in commercial bank lending rates will keep the economy mired in recession and banks' bad debts high.

But some analysts said their concerns ran deeper than just interest rates, saying further structural changes were needed in the financial industry.

"Though the economy is in a process of bottoming out, getting interest rates down isn't enough," said George Morgan, managing director of ABN-AMRO Asia Securities PCL.

"Banks and companies must recapitalize properly before domestic lending can resume."

Investor's Asia				
Exchange	Index	Tuesday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong Hang Seng	11000	9,721.33	9,851.93	-1.35
Singapore Straits Times	1300	1,172.06	1,219.28	-3.87
Sydney All Ordinaries	800	2,682.40	2,689.10	-0.25
Tokyo Nikkei 225	12000	14,108.09	14,194.54	-0.61
Kuala Lumpur Composite	600	467.54	465.69	+0.40
Bangkok SET	1000	336.52	353.85	-4.90
Seoul Composite Index	400	403.24	424.45	-5.00
Taipei Stock Market Index	6000	6,812.30	6,957.40	-2.09
Manila PSE	1000	1,637.10	1,712.51	-4.40
Jakarta Composite Index	300	357.30	364.38	-1.95
Wellington NZSE-40	2000	2,067.41	2,028.73	+1.05
Bombay Sensitive Index	3000	3,004.57	2,983.57	+0.70

Very briefly:

- Nissan Motor Co. had a loss of 32.55 billion yen (\$267.5 million) in its first half, which ended Sept. 30, because of slumping sales and massive stock losses, prompting Japan's second-largest automaker to predict its sixth full-year loss in seven years.
- Konami Co., a Japanese maker of computer-game software, plans to list on the London Stock Exchange in February and is considering a listing in New York by 2001.
- Softbank Corp., Japan's largest distributor of personal-computer software and peripherals, said earnings rose 39 percent, to 3.29 billion yen, for the six months that ended Sept. 30 as it sold stockholdings to offset slower performance at U.S. units such as Ziff-Davis Inc.
- Brierley Investments Ltd., a struggling New Zealand investment group, plans further asset sales and reorganization measures while it continues to resist Roy Disney's attempts to gain management control.
- Tenaga Nasional Bhd., Malaysia's biggest power utility, posted its largest-ever loss of 3.09 billion ringgit (\$815.3 million) for the year that ended Aug. 31 as foreign-exchange losses wiped out earnings.
- Kookmin Bank, one of South Korea's three biggest commercial banks, will sell a record \$500 million of new shares to shore up its finances.
- South Korea will ban banks from lending more than 25 percent of their capital to any one business group from January 2000, six months earlier than originally planned.
- Indonesia's currency should strengthen and its economy could return to growth of about 6 percent to 7 percent a year, a senior International Monetary Fund official said. Private economists expect a contraction of 20 percent this year.
- China's crude-oil imports fell 4 percent, to 2.16 million tons, in September from August after refineries cut production in line with slowing growth in domestic and overseas demand.

Bloomberg A.P.

Singapore Slides Into Recession

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SINGAPORE — Singapore slipped into recession in the third quarter for the first time in 13 years, the government said Tuesday, falling victim to a crisis that has hit its Asian neighbors far more severely.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry said the island-state's economy shrank 3.5 percent in the third quarter from the second. The drop was led by declines in commerce and manufacturing, two key drivers of the electronics exports that fuel Singapore's economy.

In the second quarter, the economy declined 1.4 percent from the first period; the two consecutive quarterly drops signal that the country has technically entered a recession. In the third quarter, the economy declined 0.7 percent compared with a year earlier.

"It's just beginning," said Lee Yong Seng, an economist at Nikko Research Center. "The possibility of layoffs, especially for the service sector, is there."

Singapore joins its recession-hit Asian neighbors — Hong Kong,

Malaysia, Thailand, South Korea, Indonesia and Japan — as the 17-month-old currency and debt crisis has crimped demand, created excess capacity, reduced investment flows and led to a surge in bad debt.

The government cut its forecast for economic growth in 1998 to between 0.5 percent and 1 percent from a range of 0.5 percent to 1.5 percent. It also gave an estimate for 1999 for the first time, saying the economy could expand by as much as 1 percent or shrink by the same amount. The economy grew 7.8 percent last year.

"It will be a moderate recession, not a bad recession," said Najeeb Jarhom, head of research at Fraser-AMMB Research. "I see the recovery as a prolonged process over a one- or two-year period starting at the end of next year."

Other economists agreed that Singapore would continue to fare better than some of its neighbors, noting that the decline in output in the third quarter was actually smaller than expected.

"The key word for the Singapore economy is resilience," said Neil Saker, head of Southeast Asia economic research at SG Securities Singapore, which is maintaining its forecast of 1.1 percent growth for 1998. (Bloomberg, AFP)

China May Make Airbus Parts

Bloomberg News

LONDON — Airbus Industrie may offer Chinese companies a chance to build wings for some of its planes to help it sell aircraft to China, according to British Aerospace PLC, a member of the European aircraft-making consortium.

Airbus could invite Chinese companies to make some wing parts and even entire wing sections for A320s, the best-selling Airbus model, BAE's chief executive, John Weston, said. BAE designs and builds wings for all Airbus aircraft.

"They might do the whole wing section; that's not been ruled out," Mr. Weston said.

BAE, a 20 percent partner in Airbus, holds all the licenses and patents for the wings. Airbus, like its American rival Boeing Co., is eager to court favor with China, whose airplane market is expected to become the world's fastest-growing over the next 20 years. Asking Chinese companies to make the wings would improve Airbus's prospects in China and give a lift to China's fledgling aircraft industry.

Cathay Pacific To Take Control Of Philippine Air

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MANILA — Philippine Airlines has accepted an offer from Cathay Pacific Airways that would give the Hong Kong-based carrier control of the struggling Philippine airline, the companies said Tuesday.

The two airlines will now draw up a comprehensive plan to rehabilitate Philippine Air. Under Philippine law, Cathay could buy 40 percent of the carrier.

Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu said Cathay's offer involved the infusion of \$75 million to \$100 million into the financially troubled carrier, but he did not say what percentage of Philippine Air this would place with Cathay.

An investment from Cathay would be accompanied by an additional investment by Lucio Tan, Philippine Air's chairman, the two airlines said.

President Joseph Estrada of the Philippines said he would accept any accord as long as Philippine Air remained the country's flag carrier. (AFP, AFP)

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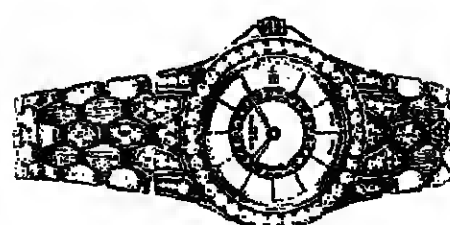
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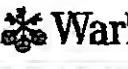

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NASDAQ

Tuesday's 4 P.M.

10 most traded National Market securities
of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

Stock	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
IBM	125.25	124.75	125.00	125.00	1,200,000
Microsoft	55.25	54.75	55.00	55.00	1,100,000
Apple	45.25	44.75	45.00	45.00	1,000,000
Oracle	35.25	34.75	35.00	35.00	900,000
Amazon	25.25	24.75	25.00	25.00	800,000
Google	15.25	14.75	15.00	15.00	700,000
Yahoo	10.25	10.00	10.00	10.00	600,000
Alibaba	5.25	5.00	5.00	5.00	500,000
Facebook	3.25	3.00	3.00	3.00	400,000
Twitter	2.25	2.00	2.00	2.00	300,000

Stock	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
Alphabet	125.25	124.75	125.00	125.00	1,200,000
Meta	55.25	54.75	55.00	55.00	1,100,000
Amazon	45.25	44.75	45.00	45.00	1,000,000
Google	35.25	34.75	35.00	35.00	900,000
Facebook	25.25	24.75	25.00	25.00	800,000
Twitter	15.25	14.75	15.00	15.00	700,000
LinkedIn	10.25	10.00	10.00	10.00	600,000
Slack	5.25	5.00	5.00	5.00	500,000
Zoom	3.25	3.00	3.00	3.00	400,000
Dropbox	2.25	2.00	2.00	2.00	300,000

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close
(Continued)

Stock	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume
IBM	125.25	124.75	125.00	125.00	1,200,000
Microsoft	55.25	54.75	55.00	55.00	1,100,000
Apple	45.25	44.75	45.00	45.00	1,000,000
Oracle	35.25	34.75	35.00	35.00	900,000
Amazon	25.25	24.75	25.00	25.00	800,000
Google	15.25	14.75	15.00	15.00	700,000
Yahoo	10.25	10.00	10.00	10.00	600,000
Alibaba	5.25	5.00	5.00	5.00	500,000
Facebook	3.25	3.00	3.00	3.00	400,000
Twitter	2.25	2.00	2.00	2.00	300,000

مكتبة الأمل

WORLD ROUNDUP

Dalglish and Kerr Consider Celtic Bid

SOCCER A consortium headed by Kenny Dalglish, a former player with the club, and the pop star Jim Kerr has requested a meeting with Celtic soccer club to discuss a takeover, the Glasgow club said Tuesday.

The Scottish champion said the group had requested a meeting with Fergus McCann, the chairman and managing director, who has said he plans to sell his majority stake.

Dalglish played for Celtic before moving to England to play for Liverpool. He later managed Liverpool, Blackburn Rovers and Newcastle. Kerr is the lead singer of the band Simple Minds. (AP)

Serve Saves Ivanisevic

TENNIS Goran Ivanisevic, seeded No. 3, served 18 aces Tuesday but still struggled to beat Carsten Arriens of Germany in the Kremlin Open in Moscow.

Ivanisevic failed to break a single serve and won both sets on a tiebreaker, 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-3).

Yevgeni Kafelnikov of Russia, the defending champion, outlasted a countryman, Andrei Cherkasov, a wild card, 6-3, 6-4.

Raemon Sluiter of the Netherlands eliminated the No. 7 seed, Daniel Vacek of the Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-4.

In Stockholm, Wayne Arthurs an Australian doubles specialist beat Karol Kucera of Slovakia, the No. 2 seed, 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-4). In the first round of the Stockholm Open, Arthurs, 27, is ranked No. 168 in the world and was competing in only his third ATP singles event of the year.

"I had nothing to lose," said Arthurs. "If I lost, nobody would care; if I won, everybody would be very surprised." (AP)



Goran Ivanisevic hitting a backhand to Carsten Arriens.

Capitals Sign Goalie

HOCKEY The Washington Capitals signed Olaf Kolzig, the goalie who led the team to its first appearance in the Stanley Cup finals last season, to a four-year, \$12 million contract. (AP)

Sacrilege at Wembley Stadium?

'Church of Football' Faces Losing Twin Towers to Demolition

By Rob Hughes
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Memories are binding on our lives. At the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, countless millions share the Remembrance dedicated to the dead of World War I. And, lest we forget that sport, too, is built up on memories, a rare old argument is simmering in London.

Wembley Stadium, a symbol of soccer wherever the game holds meaning, is in its last season. The 75-year-old arena is withered beyond any face-lift. Demolition will follow the English FA Cup Final next May, but when the new Wembley opens in 2002, something irreplaceable could be missing.

Think of Wembley: Those white concrete twin towers surely spring to mind.

Out of that image tumbles, depending on your age and your interest, triumphs of sportsmen and sportswomen at the 1948 London Olympics, the Stanley Matthews Cup Final in 1953, the Magical Magyars of Hungary giving England the mother of all soccer lessons that same year, and the 1966 World Cup, which remains the pinnacle of English sporting success.

So many, many personal remembrances, each triggered by the sight of those two towers. The architecture is dated; the towers have nothing but decorative purpose, so who cares if they are consigned to history along with the rest of the rubble?

Pele cares. He, the greatest player never to adorn Wembley's green sward, still lights up at the mention of Wembley. "The church of football," he calls it. Ask Pele, ask anyone, to sketch this church, and the outline is enshrined in the Twin Towers.

The Brazilian hails from an era when romance was as much a part of soccer as the money. Yet the mystique of Wembley, the idea that it is the spiritual home of the sport, has survived soccer's increasingly mercenary attitudes.

Andrei Shevchenko, the Ukraine who could soon become the costliest player on earth, spoke of being lifted against Arsenal last month because the match was at Wembley.

Danes, Poles, Argentines, Germans, Wembley excites them. They grow rich beyond desire, isolated by fame and fortune, yet remain schoolboyish be-

neath the twin towers. Gianfranco Zola, the little Sardinian in his third season for Chelsea, scored Italy's winning goal against England in World Cup qualifying, and said he was humbled by doing it at Wembley. "That," he said, "was my dream."

So sentiment is not confined to those who merely watch. Heaven help me: Is it age that makes a man nostalgic for a building that has fallen into disrepair? Is it foolish to care for an immovable monument when the movement of sport is what counts?

I think not. Wembley is a landmark known round the globe — surely the

VANTAGE POINT

goal of any architect. England has this permanent facade to "The Venue of Legends."

A new Wembley with all modern conveniences is the goal. Fair enough. As a British tax payer whose funds will be poured into the stadium, I am entitled to plead for the Twin Towers. Wembley without them would become just another sporting bowl, no grander than the Stade de France outside Paris, the San Siro in Milan, the decaying Maracana in Rio de Janeiro. Palaces of their time and place, all of them, but not Wembley.

We are told the cost of the new stadium is escalating alarmingly since it was estimated three years ago at £168 million (\$280 million). That cost could now be double.

Yet with Wembley a magnet for foreign visitors, like the Houses of Parliament or Buckingham Palace, many can see the point of rebuilding it as a state-of-the-art venue. Britain's political masters have, after all, committed their citizens to a Millennium Dome, a piece of contrived symbolism through which our figures of renowned athleticism have passed.

This week, it is expected, the British National Lottery will buy Wembley for £105 million from the publicly quoted company that rents it to the English soccer authorities and other sporting bodies. The demolition and redevelopment will then be administered by twin companies under the chairmanship of Ken Bates.

Bates, a London soccer club, has with brutal brilliance reshaped a debt-laden club he purchased for £1 into a force in Europe. Chelsea's rebuilt stadium is the

crown jewel in Chelsea Village, Bates's complex of luxury apartments, hotel, shops.

"I am totally open-minded," Bates said Monday of the Wembley redevelopment. "You either have the Twin Towers or you have progress."

His friend Tony Banks, the British sports minister, said: "We cannot allow sheer emotionalism to drive this. We are trying to produce the finest stadium in the world, and as the project stands it will be difficult to keep the towers. We have to bite that bullet."

It appears that Banks has known for some time "two years or more" that the towers would go. Apparently they were cast out of ferro-concrete and might crumble beneath the effort to move them. The architects plan to shift the playing field in order to build a multipurpose arena for Olympic bid in 2012 and a soccer World Cup in 2006. The center circle of the soccer field would be where the towers now stand.

"I don't think the Twin Towers are that controversial or are that significant to the new stadium," said Graham Kelly, the chief executive of the Football Association.

No? Why then did he sign, a pledge in February that "the British government, the English Sports Council and the Royal Institute of British Architects together with the National Stadium Trust will ensure the new stadium combines the modernity and sophistication expected of a world class venue with the very best of the existing Wembley Stadium tradition. After all, how could there be a Wembley Stadium without those legendary twin towers?"

The promise was written in the official newsletter of England's World Cup 2006 Campaign last February. If the architects cannot grasp the nub of Wembley's appeal and build upon it, change the architect. And if cost is the problem, put it to the people.

What we have now is deception. Wembley was nominated over four other English cities, some of which had greater space and more imaginative designs, because it is in the capital and because Wembley boasts history. Twin towers are integral to that, and twin towers adorn the brochures and the calendar the Football Association will send out for 1999.

Rob Hughes is chief sports writer of The Times of London.



The Pakistani batsman Yousaf Yohana, right, diving Tuesday to escape an attempted stumping by Adam Gilchrist, Australia's wicketkeeper.

With Pay Dispute Settled, West Indies Starts Tour

Cricket Team Finally Arrives in South Africa

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

JOHANNESBURG — Brian Lara apologized Tuesday as the West Indies cricket team finally arrived for its first post-apartheid tour of South Africa, but he avoided discussing the pay dispute that had threatened to end the trip before it started.

Lara refused to discuss the settlement, saying it was "totally confidential." The West Indies captain added, "These things happen in sport. We hope that people will understand the situation."

"The team is here to win the test series," he said, "and the whole team, apart from Jimmy Adams, is fit."

Adams, a batsman, cut the little finger of his right hand with a bread knife while trying to cut through a hard roll on the flight over, said Ali Bacher, head of South Africa's United Cricket Board.

The team arrived without two fast bowlers, Courtney Walsh and Curtley Ambrose, who missed their London connection Monday for the flight to South Africa, Bacher said.

The first match, was canceled, and the West Indies will open with a one-day match against a Gauteng provincial side in Soweto on Wednesday.

The tour is the first by the West Indies since the fall of apartheid in South Africa, where cricket is followed mainly by whites. The presence of the

black Caribbean team is a boost to efforts to promote the sport among South African blacks, who mostly follow soccer.

Problems started last week when Lara and the vice captain, Carl Hooper, refused to go to South Africa, demanding better pay and conditions. They were suspended, but reinstated as part of the settlement Monday.

West Indies cricket officials said the pact calls for no increase in the players' fees for the South Africa tour but that the payments would be restructured. The West Indies board promised to try to improve pay on future tours. It also agreed to recognize the role of the players' union, review player insurance coverage and the grievance and disciplinary code and work toward a joint marketing program that would allow players a share in revenues. (AP, Reuters)

Australia Beats Pakistan

Adam Gilchrist and Ricky Ponting each hit centuries to lead Australia to a six-wicket victory over Pakistan in the final one-day international Tuesday. The Associated Press reported from Lahore, Pakistan.

Pakistan batted first and made 315 for eight wickets. Jaz Ahmed and Yousaf Yohana both made centuries. Gilchrist hit 103 and Ponting made 124 out of 48.5 overs. Australia reached 316 for four in 48.5 overs. Australia won the series, 3-0.

Ronaldo's Injury Crisis Passes Quickly

The Associated Press

Inter Milan said Tuesday that Ronaldo's latest knee injury was not as serious as initially feared and that the Brazilian striker would play against Sampdoria on Sunday.

Club doctors said that Ronaldo, who limped off the field with a bruised left knee during a 2-2 draw Sunday against AC Milan, will resume training Wednesday.

He will miss the third-round second-leg of the Italian Cup against Castel di Sangro on Wednesday.

Ronaldo struggled at the start of the season due to tendinitis in both knees.

Before leaving the field Sunday, he had scored his third goal in three league

games. Juventus, the Italian champion, is also struggling with injuries and said it will start a Croat defender at center forward and will also start some players from its junior teams in its Italian Cup match Wednesday.

Igor Tudor, who usually plays in defense, will lead the attack in the third-round second-leg game of the Italian Cup against Venezia.

Juve will be without forward Alessandro Del Piero, sidelined until March with a knee injury. The team also will be without the French midfielder Didier Deschamps, the striker Filippo Inzaghi, the goalie Angelo Peruzzi, the defender Mark Lufano and the midfielders Antonio Conte and Alessio Tacchinardi.

Borussia Gets Rid of Coach

Borussia Mönchengladbach, which is bottom of the German Bundesliga, fired its coach, Friedel Rausch, Tuesday and hired Rainer Bonhof, a former German international. The Associated Press reported from Mönchengladbach.

Bonhof played for Mönchengladbach in the 1970s, when the club won the Bundesliga five times. In its last two matches the team has conceded 15 goals. Rausch, 58, was hired in April, and under his guidance the club escaped demotion in the final game last season.

The club also fired its manager, Rolf Ruesmann, who has been faulted for acquiring wrong players.

SCOREBOARD

ICE HOCKEY

NHL Standings

Atlantic	Metropolitan	Central	Pacific
New Jersey	Philadelphia	St. Louis	Vancouver
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

Eastern	Western	Northwest	Southwest
Washington	San Jose	Edmonton	Phoenix
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

Central	Western	Northwest	Southwest
St. Louis	San Jose	Edmonton	Phoenix
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

Atlantic	Metropolitan	Central	Pacific
New Jersey	Philadelphia	St. Louis	Vancouver
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

Eastern	Western	Northwest	Southwest
Washington	San Jose	Edmonton	Phoenix
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

Central	Western	Northwest	Southwest
St. Louis	San Jose	Edmonton	Phoenix
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

Atlantic	Metropolitan	Central	Pacific
New Jersey	Philadelphia	St. Louis	Vancouver
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

Eastern	Western	Northwest	Southwest
Washington	San Jose	Edmonton	Phoenix
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

Central	Western	Northwest	Southwest
St. Louis	San Jose	Edmonton	Phoenix
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

Atlantic	Metropolitan	Central	Pacific
New Jersey	Philadelphia	St. Louis	Vancouver
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

Eastern	Western	Northwest	Southwest
Washington	San Jose	Edmonton	Phoenix
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

Central	Western	Northwest	Southwest
St. Louis	San Jose	Edmonton	Phoenix
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

FOOTBALL

NFL Standings

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh	San Francisco
W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26	W 1 L 1 T 0 Pts 26

WOMEN

Top 25 teams in Associated Press

Rank	Team	Record
1	Tennessee	10-0

Rank	Team	Record
2	North Carolina	9-1

Rank	Team	Record
3	Georgia Tech	8-2

Rank	Team	Record
4	Florida	7-3

Rank	Team	Record
5	Alabama	6-4

Rank	Team	Record
6	Arkansas	5-5

Rank	Team	Record
7	Georgia	4-6

Rank	Team	Record
8	Virginia Tech	3-7

Rank	Team	Record
9	South Carolina	2-8

Rank	Team	Record
10	Kansas	1-9

Rank	Team	Record
11	Michigan	0-10

Rank	Team	Record
12	North Carolina	0-10

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

Team	Record
Los Angeles	10-0

Team	Record
San Jose	9-1

Team	Record
Portland	8-2

Team	Record
Seattle	7-3

Team	Record
San Diego	6-4

Team	Record
Chicago	5-5

Team	Record
San Francisco	4-6

Team	Record
Colorado	3-7

Team	Record
Atlanta	2-8

Team	Record
Washington	1-9

Team	Record
Philadelphia	0-10

Team	Record
San Jose	0-10

SPORTS

TVM Riders Failed Drug Tests in Tour, Report Says

The Associated Press
PARIS — Six cyclists from the Dutch team TVM were found to have used illegal doping substances during the Tour de France, a French newspaper said Tuesday.

After a medical examination in July, four of six team members were found to have used EPO, which increases the supply of oxygen to red blood cells, and three of the cyclists had traces of other illegal substances, Le Parisien reported.

The results are part of a 200-page report from a hospital in Albertville, France, where TVM team members were taken for extensive medical checks during the Tour de France, the report in Le Parisien said.

The investigation into TVM began in March, when French customs agents found EPO in a team car.

The find was only made public after the outbreak of the Tour de France scandal involving the Spanish team Festina, which was disqualified after some of its riders admitted taking performance-enhancing drugs.

A lawyer expressed surprise at the report.

"I am very surprised that these expert opinions, which should be protected by official secrecy, have come to light through the press," said Jacoba de Jongh, a lawyer representing four TVM cyclists.

In Sydney, Olympic organizers on Tuesday questioned a claim by a British scientist that reliable blood tests had been developed for human growth hormone and EPO.

A spokesman for the Sydney Olympic Organizing Committee said the International Olympic Committee does not test blood samples and has said it would not do so until 100 percent reliable tests were found for samples such as EPO and the growth hormone.

Dr. David Cowan, director of the Drug Control Center at Kings College London, said in remarks quoted in an Irish newspaper Monday that a research project, funded by the IOC and the European Union, had discovered reliable blood tests for EPO and HGH.

Cowan said urine testing failed to detect abuse of EPO and HGH. "By 2000, unless we are testing with blood, we haven't got a chance," he said.

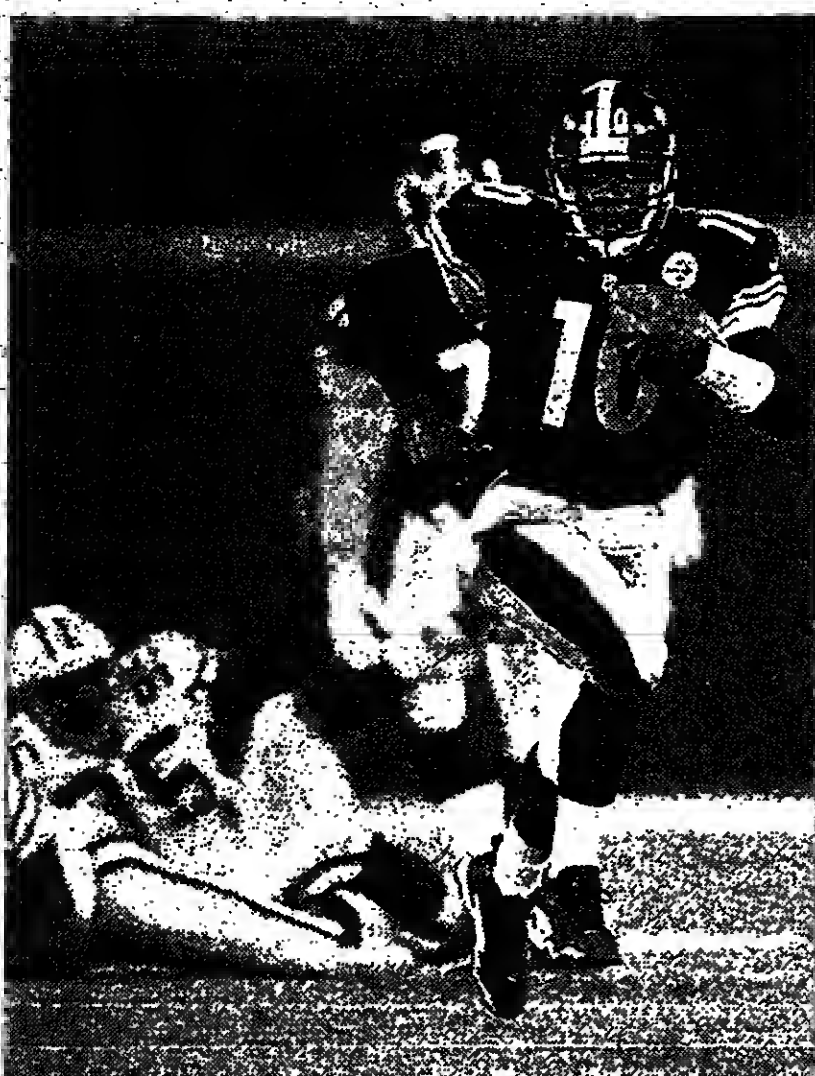
Austria's former four-man bobsled World Cup champion, Hubert Schoesser, announced his retirement Monday after failing a drug test.

The news agency Austria Presse-Agentur said Schoesser was found to have taken banned performance-enhancing drugs in a test carried out by the International Bobsleigh Federation.

Gary Hall, an Olympic gold medalist who has already served a three-month suspension for a positive marijuana test, escaped further punishment from swimming's world governing body.

Hall won gold medals as part of the U.S. 400-meter freestyle and 400-meter relay teams at the 1996 Atlanta Games. He also won silver medals in the 50 and 100 freestyle.

In another case, Suzanne Black, an American who won a gold medal in the 800 freestyle at last year's World University Games in Sicily, was suspended for three months after testing positive for marijuana.



The Steelers' Kordell Stewart dashing for a 30-yard gain against Packers.

Steelers Hold Off Packers, 27-20

Stewart Leads Pittsburgh to 27-0 Lead; Green Bay Rally Falls Short

By Mike Freeman
New York Times Service

PITTSBURGH — When the quarterbacks Kordell Stewart and Brett Favre are on the same field, defenses are going to look silly and the game is guaranteed to be interesting.

For Favre, the Green Bay Packers' quarterback, his great play came in the first quarter on Monday night when a Pittsburgh Steelers defensive end, Kevin Henry, was draped around his knees. Favre got loose and completed a 26-yard pass to the wide receiver Antonio Freeman.

Although Favre led a brilliant comeback attempt in which the Packers cut a 27-point deficit to 7 points late in the game, this night belonged to the Steelers, who won by 27-20, and to Stewart, the Pittsburgh quarterback, who was among the lowest-rated quarterbacks in the National Football League. His great play came when he ran for 30 yards on a designated pass play, leaving the Packers' defensive backs in the dust. That run led to a Steelers touchdown.

With the Steelers' offense performing better than it has been all season and the defense making Favre look like an average quarterback for three quarters, Pittsburgh hung on to beat the Packers before 60,507 at Three Rivers Stadium. Both teams now have records of 6-3.

What got the Pittsburgh offense cruising was quick out patterns, hooks and slants to the wide receivers. At

times, it was shocking that so many Steelers wide receivers were so wide open. Stewart, enjoying protection that allowed him to go through all of his reads, was 15 of 22 yards for 231 yards, 1 touchdown and no interceptions. Stewart also rushed for a touchdown.

The Steelers scored on all four of their first-half possessions, as well as on the opening drive of the second half, which resulted in a 20-yard field goal by Norm Johnson for a 27-0 lead. They didn't punt until early in the fourth quarter.

Until very late in the game, the Packers offense was simply dreadful. Favre continued his struggles of the past five weeks. He was intercepted once, which gave him 14 picks in his past five games, the worst stretch by any NFL quarterback in the 1990s. The Steelers threw everything at Favre, mixing up their coverages and shifting perhaps the best all-around defensive back in football, Camell Lake, from cover man to blitzer to primary run-stopper.

Not that Favre hasn't seen the kitchen sink tossed his way before, but without a running game to help — the Pro Bowl running back Dorsey Levens is out with an injured knee — it's Favre against the world. The Packers didn't put their first points on the board until the 2-minute, 44-second mark of the third quarter, and that was just a 42-yard field goal by Ryan Longwell.

Green Bay's fortunes began to change in the fourth quarter, though. With the Steelers threatening to score again late in the game, Stewart lined up

tight at wide receiver and Mike Tomczak was the quarterback. The Packers defensive end Reggie White interrupted what was a questionable play call by sacking Tomczak. The ball popped loose and the lineman Keith McKenzie picked it up and ran 88 yards for the touchdown. (The 2-point conversion attempt was no good.)

The failed trick play gave the Packers some life. After forcing Pittsburgh to punt, they later scored on a 2-yard run by Raymond Harris to cut the score to 27-17 with just under five minutes left. The Packers recovered the onside kick and eventually kicked a field goal. Pittsburgh recovered the onside kick the next time and hung on.

The Steelers had five victories coming into this game, but from the way Coach Bill Cowher acted this week, one would have thought Pittsburgh had no victories. When asked by reporters before the game if Stewart or the backup, Tomczak, was slated to start, Cowher gave contentious responses that provoked such a negative response from fans — who watched the news conference live — that he was forced to apologize.

Cowher has always been emotional, but his reaction to the questions betrayed the real reason he was in such a foul mood. Pittsburgh's offense has struggled, as has its defense.

Before the game, a Packers safety, LeRoy Butler, said that if Stewart played well it would be one of the more embarrassing moments of the season for Green Bay. It was.

Texans Sweep Baseball Rookie Prizes

The Associated Press
NEW YORK — They sure play good high school baseball in Texas.

Kerry Wood, Grand Prairie High School Class of '95, was voted National League Rookie of the Year on Monday, and Ben Griev, Class of '94 at James W. Martin High School in neighboring Arlington, won the American League Rookie of the Year on Tuesday.

"Ben, I grew up playing against him in high school and he's always been a great player," Wood said. "We've talked more this season than we had all of high school. We didn't like each other in high school. It's going to be something to see, two guys from the same area getting American and National League Rookie of the Year."

Wood, who struck out 20 in just his fifth career start and helped the Chicago Cubs to their first playoff berth since 1989, narrowly beat out the Colorado first baseman Todd Helton in the closest National League rookie vote since Steve Sax topped Johnny Ray by six points in 1982.

Wood, a 21-year-old right-hander, received 16 first-place votes and 16 seconds to finish with 123 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Helton got 15 firsts, 14 seconds and two thirds for 119 points.

Travis Lee, the Arizona first baseman, was third with 21 points, and the Atlanta closer, Kerry Lichtenberg, who received the other first-place vote, was fourth with 18 points.

Griev easily won the AL Rookie voting. The 22-year-old right fielder for the Oakland Athletics was the only candidate named on all 28 bal-

lots. He received 23 first-place votes and five seconds to finish with 130 points.

The Tampa Bay pitcher Rolando Arrojo earned four first-place votes and 61 points. The Chicago shortstop Mike Caruso was third with 34 points, followed by Orlando (El Duque) Hernandez, the New York pitcher who finished with 25 points and the other first-place vote.

Griev, whose father, Tom, played in the major leagues and was the general manager of the Texas Rangers, led AL rookies with 168 hits, 18 home runs, 94 runs, 41 doubles and 89 runs batted in. He led the club in on-base percentage, at-bats, hits, doubles, walks and was second in runs. He batted .288 and made just two errors in the outfield.

Wood was 13-6 with a 3.40 earned run average in 26 starts, striking out 233 in 166 1/3 innings as the Chicago Cubs made the playoffs for the first time since 1989.

He struck out 20 while pitching a one-hitter against Houston on May 6. Roger Clemens, who did it against Detroit and Seattle, is the only other pitcher to strike out 20 in a nine-inning game.

"It helped me finally realize that I was capable of pitching at that level," Wood said. "The previous four starts before that were rocky."

Wood was the favorite to win the award heading into the final month of the season. But because of a sprained elbow ligament, his start against Cincinnati on Aug. 31 was his last of the regular season.

Wood returned in Game 3 of the NL playoffs, allowing one run — not earned — against Atlanta as the Cubs

were eliminated. His elbow will be examined again in about two weeks.

Helton batted .315 with 25 homers and 97 runs batted in, taking over at first base for the Rockies after Andres Galaraga left to sign with Atlanta after the 1997 season.

Helton led the major leagues in August with a .398 average and batted .359 after the All-Star break, the sixth-best in the majors. He hit .386 with runners in scoring position, the fourth-best in the baseball.

However, offensive statistics for Rockies tend to get discounted because they play at Coors Field. Helton hit .354 at home with 13 homers and 61 RBIs, but .273 on the road with 12 homers and 36 RBIs.

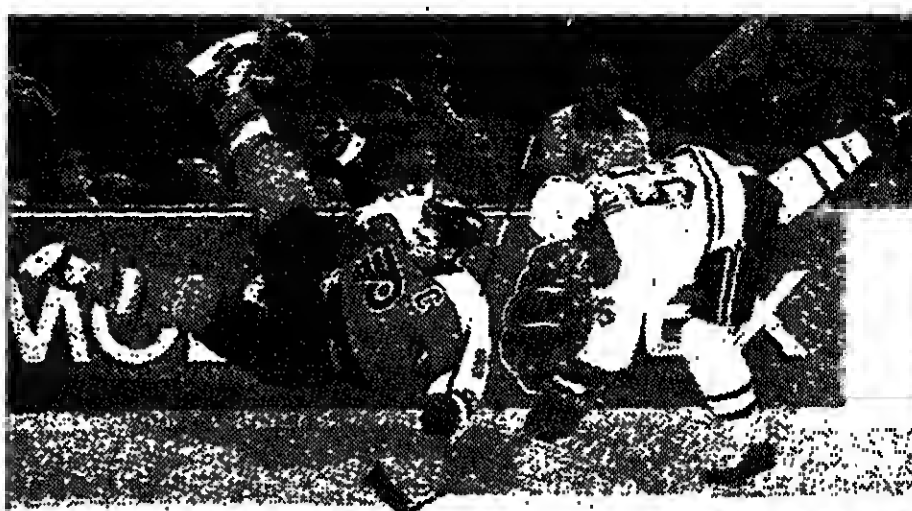
Arrojo and Hernandez, both Cuban defectors, were the top rookie pitchers in the AL. Arrojo went 14-12 with a 3.56 ERA and made the All-Star team. Hernandez, who fled Cuba on a raft last December, went 12-4 with a 3.13 after being called up on June 3.

Caruso led AL rookies with a .306 average, but made 35 errors at shortstop.

Matsui Helps All-Stars Win

Hideki Matsui hit a two-run homer in the three-run first inning Tuesday as Japan's all-stars rebounded from two losses and beat a team of major leagueers 6-2. The Associated Press reported from Fukuoka, Japan.

The major leagueers opened their visit with three victories — 4-1 over the Central League's Yomiuri Giants, and then 8-1 and 10-7 in the first two games of a seven-game series against the Japanese all-stars.



Philadelphia's Eric Lindros, left, and Montreal's Igor Ulanov colliding.

Salo Shines as Islanders Win

The Associated Press

TORONTO — Tommy Salo turned aside 38 shots as the New York Islanders won in Toronto for their first victory at Maple Leaf Gardens since Feb. 3, 1993. They also won on the road for the first time since Oct. 17.

"Tommy won us that game," said Mike

Cauley scored for the Maple Leafs.

Salo was especially sharp in the first two periods, including saves on two breakaways by Steve Sullivan and three close-in chances by Mats Sundin, his Swedish countryman.

"Sometimes you don't deserve to win the game, and that was probably the case," said Lapointe.

NHL roundup

Milbury, the Islanders' general manager, after his team triumphed, 3-1, on Monday night. "That was the worst game we played as a team, but Tommy was just brilliant. That is as good a game as Tommy has played this season, and he has played some good games."

All of the scoring came in the third period. Claude Lapointe, Gino Odjick and Sergei Nemchinov scored for the Islanders, who were outplayed and outshot, 39-19. Allyn Mc-

Canadians 5, Flyers 1 In Montreal. Brian Savage scored twice to spark the Canadiens' victory. Martin Rucinsky, Turner Stevenson and Shayne Corson also scored for the Canadiens who scored on their first three shots on goal and now have won three in a row.

Kings 4, Canucks 3 Vladimir Tsyplakov scored with 3:57 left as Los Angeles won in Vancouver to snap a four-game winless streak. Tsyplakov's winning goal came two minutes after the Canucks' Markus Nashund scored to tie the game at 3-3.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"BUT HE WAS A GROWNUP! YOU SAID YOU WERE TAKING ME TO A KID DOCTOR!"

PEANUTS



I THINK THE NEW REPLACEMENTS ARE GETTING SMALLER ALL THE TIME.

WILLIE AND JOE... MY HEROES! HAPPY VETERANS' DAY, MEN!

SCOTT: No problem, Bill Mauldin.

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CALVIN AND HOBBES



I WANT SOME MORE TOAST.

ROOM SERVICE!!

HA! THAT SURE GOT YOU UP HERE QUICK!

TOMORROW YOU'RE GOING TO SCHOOL...

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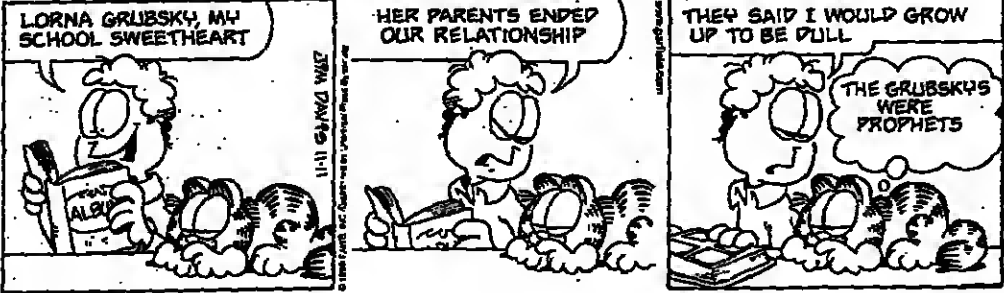
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GARFIELD



LORNA GRUBBSKY, MY SCHOOL SWEETHEART

HER PARENTS ENDED OUR RELATIONSHIP

THEY SAID I WOULD GROW UP TO BE A PILL

THE GRUBBSKY'S WERE PROPHETS

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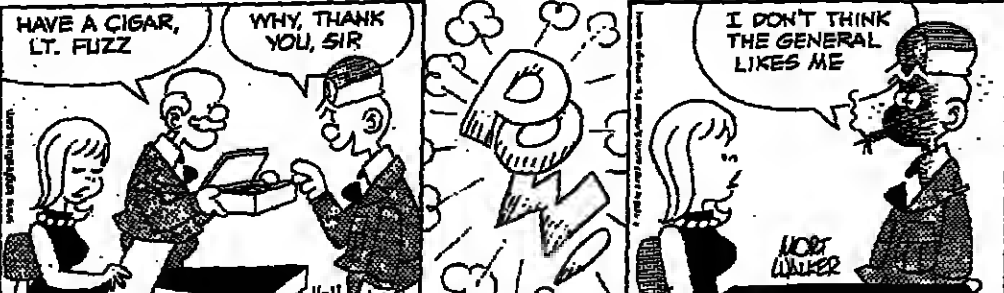
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BEETLE BAILEY



HAVE A CIGAR, LT. FUZZ

WHY, THANK YOU, SIR

I DON'T THINK THE GENERAL LIKES ME

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BLONDIE



GREAT NEWS ABOUT BURGER BARN

WHAT IS IT, DEAR?

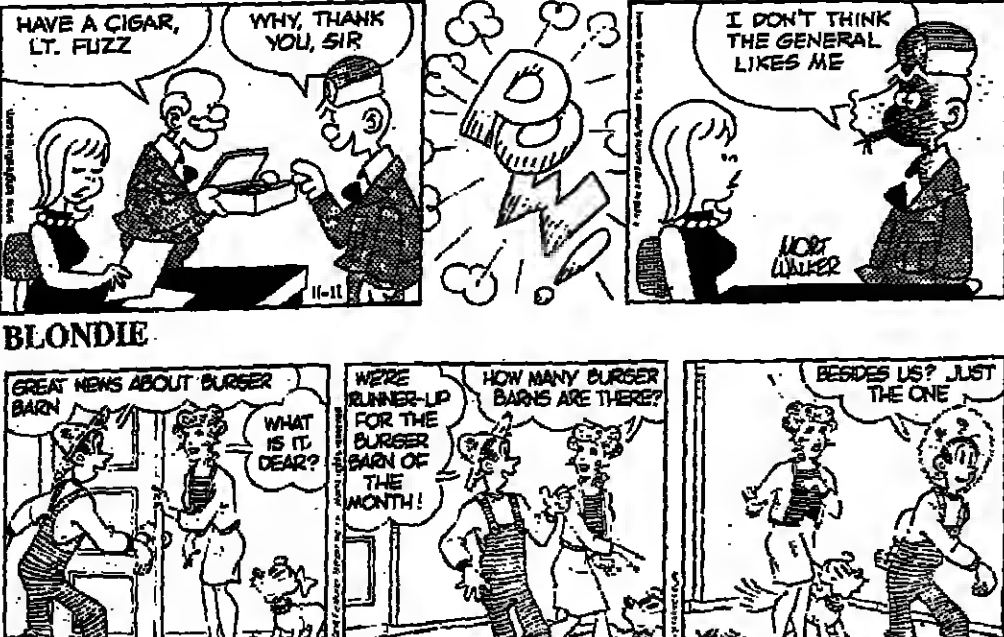
WE'RE BLAZING-UP FOR THE BURGER BARN OF THE MONTH!

HOW MANY BURGER BARS ARE THERE?

BEHIND US? JUST THE ONE

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NON SEQUITUR



I KNOW THE INVITATION SAID CASUAL DRESS, BUT IS IT RALPH LAUREN CASUAL, OR TOMMY HILFINGER CASUAL?

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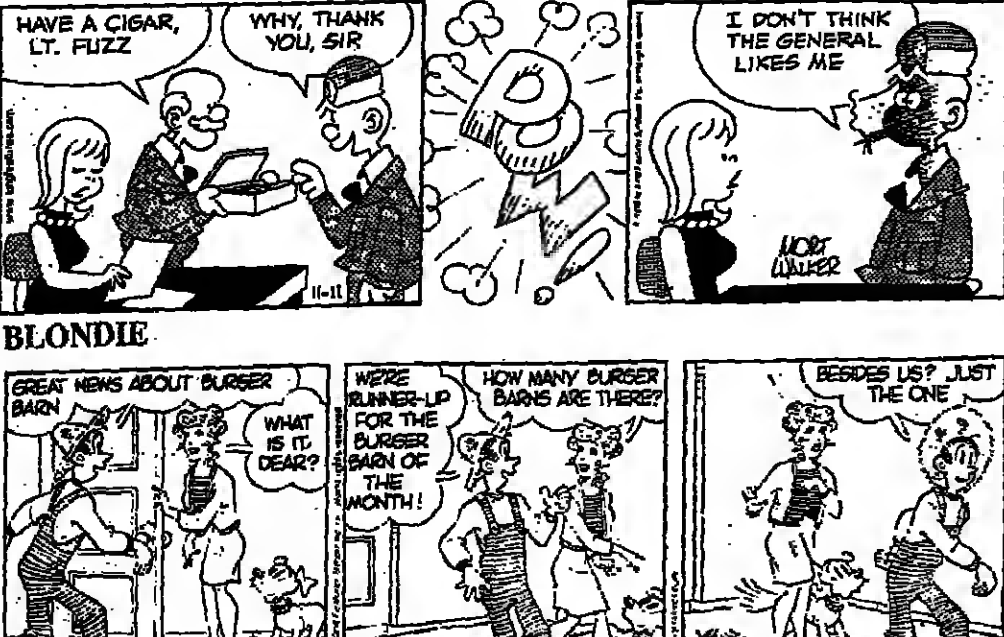
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DOONESBURY



EXCUSE ME? ARE YOU MARRYING THE BROOKLYN LADY?

SHOULD I BE? SHE DOESN'T MATCH HER PICTURES

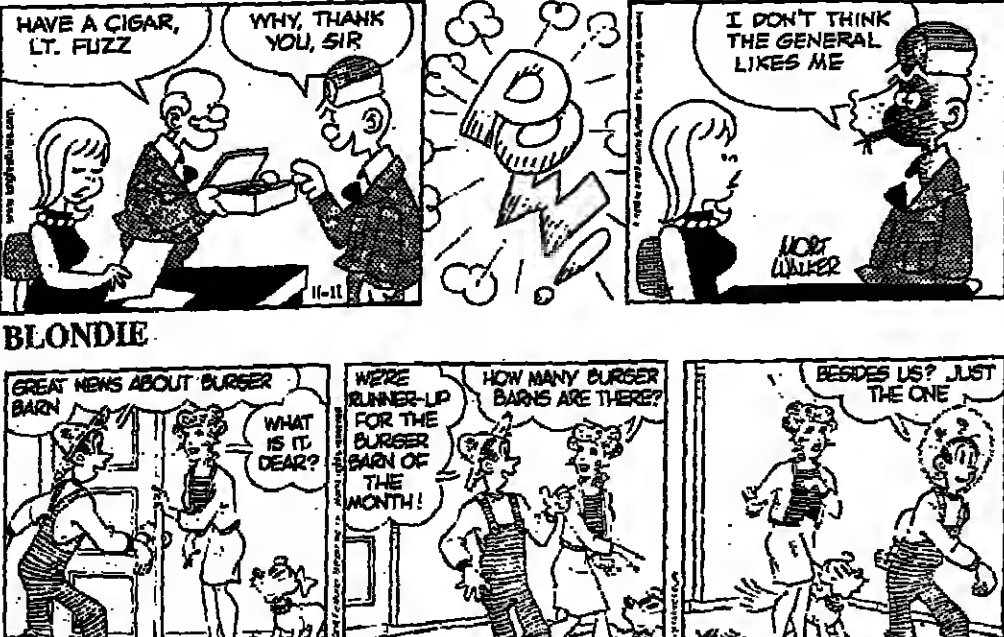
UH...MRS. SCHROEDER...

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING... HE DON'T LOOK LIKE THE SORT OF GUY WHO COULD AFFORD A NICE PLACE!

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THE GREAT BOONER QUANDARY



HE JUST SWITCHED SOON-SCENDING GLASSES THIS MORNING, LADY! THERE WASN'T TIME TO GET RE-OUPFITTED!

UH...LADY...

RIGHT, HE THOUGHT KID TO BE THE SORT OF THING FIRST

AREN'T THEY THIN?

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OBSERVER

Burgville Forever

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — The big election issue in Burgville was the meals tax. Would the people approve a tax on restaurant meals to help pay for building schools? Burgville's cry of "No!" was resounding.

I knew it would be, so I voted for it. Voting to be taxed so Burgville youth could get an education and amount to something made me feel not only like a good citizen, but also like a wonderful human being.

Burgville elections are always rife with certainties. Everybody always knows for certain that congressman Frank Buckner will be re-elected, as he was last week. He's Republican. Nothing but Republicans have been elected in Burgville since the Weather Bureau began keeping records.

I figured Buckner a good bet to get 75 percent of the vote, and, being a student of history, I know that when a politician gets 75 percent of the vote it often goes to his head and, sooner or later, he starts behaving like Caligula. So, though Buckner has actually been perfectly acceptable, as congressmen go, I voted against him as a matter of abstract principle. Some show of opposition was important, I thought, possibly to save Burgville from the caprices of tyranny.

I remember reading that Caligula made his horse a consul of Rome. Or was it associate emperor? It's not important what the office was. It's the horse of the matter that interests me.

That's because Burgville is surrounded by horses and all

the paraphernalia that goes with them: hounds, foxes, bourbon, people so devoted to their horses that they hitch horse carriers to their pickups and take them out for Sunday drives in the country.

Is it conceivable that in this venue a tyrant hardened by incessantly winning 75 percent of the vote might make his horse mayor of Burgville? Yes, I guess it is if we are talking of Frank Buckner in his neatly pressed, but not ostentatiously custom-tailored, middle-of-the-road-Republican, not right-wing-nut, suits.

Still, all this Burgville certainty — there's something unhealthy about it. So I voted for the Democrat, even though his campaign literature disclosed an alarming amount of time spent in divinity schools.

These Republicans are bad enough about confusing Gospel and politics. Why encourage the habit in Democrats? If he had had a chance of winning, I might have reconsidered the wisdom of voting against Buckner, and never mind the threat of tyranny.

Since, however, nobody could recall a Democrat ever winning anything in Burgville, I felt safe in acting on my intellectual grasp of history, and voted Democrat.

Such is the comfort of political life in Burgville. Here a person can always vote the way a good citizen ought to vote and be certain that the majority of the electorate will never let him suffer the consequences.

At midnight I shut off the TV, with its experts and its turbulent story of democracy with its poisonous commercials and slimy millions. Squalor, squalor everywhere. But in Burgville, certainty.

New York Times Service

Stephen King: Rich, Famous and Dissatisfied

By Doreen Carvajal
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — At midcareer and middle age, Stephen King is a restless member of the magic circle of best-sellerati, the exclusive elite of commercial authors whose pricey prose can pay for a football team or pad a publishing house's bottom line.

His latest novel of haunted love, "Bag of Bones" (Scribner), may occupy the prime real estate of best-seller lists and his new publishing partnership appears to be a blissful business marriage. But King is not entirely satisfied. He wants more.

Readers, that is. There are the lapsed female fans who, focus groups indicate, have tipped away from his brand of horror for tales such as the "vampire lit" of Anne Rice that King dismisses as soft-core pornography. Then there are the up-market customers who have shunned him like "Carrie," or the potential readers who know him only from plot twists in films and television movies.

"This is psychological," explained King, whose quest for more readers gives him the zeal at times of a director of marketing. "I would like to sell. I wanted to have one more book that was big, that felt like I was running the tables in terms of sales. I wanted to knock Tom Clancy out of the number-one spot. Like Leonardo DiCaprio. I'm king of the world, even if it's only for two weeks, whatever. I wanted those things."

At 51, with library shelves of best-selling books in his name and pen-names, King is aggressively confronting the arc of his long career, a line that the writer characterizes in "Bag of Bones" as "gratuitous remarks" to "longer for novelists because readers are a little brighter than fans of the nonwritten arts and thus have marginally longer memories."

Today his newest title clings to the upper tiers of best-seller lists, but his opening sales do not compare with some of his rivals, including new authors seeking to enter that preserve. And while more than 20 of his books have climbed the rungs of the New York Times best-seller lists, King's newest titles spend less time there. In its crucial debut week in late September, "Bag of Bones," for instance, sold in numbers at the Barnes & Noble chain that were a third of the opening sales for Clancy's "Rainbow Six" (Putnam) or half of those for Robert Jordan's "Path of Daggers" (Tor/Doherty), which nudged "Bag of Bones" out of No. 1.

Just a year ago, King parted with his newly



Stephen King in England, during his promotional tour for "Bag of Bones."

merged publisher, Viking, and started a very awkward public search for a new literary home amid sniping in publishing circles that he had passed his prime. His sales, the critics felt, were too flat to justify the almost \$18 million advance he initially demanded for the "Bag of Bones" manuscript.

Ultimately, the courting rituals with various publishers ended in a unique profit-sharing partnership with Simon & Schuster, the unit of Viacom that paid him a \$2 million advance against profits for each title in a three-book deal plus a share of the profits of more than 50 percent. Since then, King has expanded that arrangement to include two more books and he speaks of his new publishing house like a satisfied groom — one who is even more elated because he is rid of his first wife.

The lack of an enormous advance gives both sides more freedom, King said: "You become a partner in how the book does and you're not expecting somebody to take the fall if the book does badly. The problem with the big advance today, particularly for a writer who has sold as well as I have in the past, is that it says to the publisher that 'all I'm doing is taking out flop insurance.'"

So far, the author is so content with the partnership that he describes it as a "honeymoon cruise" with executives at his new imprint, Scribner, who "make me feel like I'm 35." In contrast, he said, in his "marriage with Viking, I played the woman's part. I felt like the little housewife who stays home and works all day, while my husband is out taking all the credit and sporting around town in his nice tailored suit. And I felt that I wasn't being respected and I was being taken for granted."

With the merger of Viking's parent into the Penguin Putnam Group, King said he felt he was caught in a power struggle between top executives in the different companies. Putnam, he said, already had mega-selling authors like Clancy and Patricia Cornwell.

"Clancy sells more copies than I do and Phyllis Grann is their rabbi, simple as that," he said, referring to Penguin Putnam's president, who makes bit appearances in "Bag of Bones" as a dating publisher willing to help the novelist protagonist "with almost any concern." Grann declined to comment on the negotiations. Several associates of King with knowledge of those talks, though, said

the company did make serious efforts to keep him, one person, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said King was nervous that the publishing house had become "Tom Clancy's company and he had this incredible competition with Clancy."

Now King and his new partner have settled on a strategy to try to increase his sales — which had seemed to reach a plateau of less than 1.3 million copies — by seeking lapsed readers through appeals promoting the writing quality in "Bag of Bones" or highlighting its romance elements. Focus groups, a rarely used expensive research tool in the publishing industry, met for four nights to analyze "Bag of Bones" and to discuss what makes readers run to buy King books or to bolt in the opposite direction.

"It was clear that a lot of people who had fallen away were women," King said of the research results that, he added, did not affect the book's editing. "A lot of them felt that I was writing strictly horror stories and I knew that wasn't true. And I've always been a little shy about saying, 'Now, wait a minute, I'm a lot more than just a horror writer' because it sounds so conceited."

That became the task of Scribner's publisher, Susan Moldow, who promoted the title among booksellers in places like Michigan and Alabama in the hopes that the book would reach new readers through positive word-of-mouth reviews from bookstore employees. It was her view that many people knew King's work through movies or television series, but, surprisingly, not through his own words.

With a bigger stake in the deal, King made more of an effort to promote the book, submitting to a rare publicity tour and the questions of talk-show hosts and reporters — a process that his hero in "Bag of Bones" compares to being sushi at a sushi bar.

But expanding King's base is in some ways a delicate task. By emphasizing romance elements, the publisher also risks turning off loyal readers who are drawn to King's work for plots stressing horror and the supernatural.

"I'm not really sure this is the real Stephen King or is this a mask that he's putting on for this particular book," said Jim Farrelly, a professor of English at the University of Dayton who had been teaching courses featuring King's books for almost as long as King's career. "I'm really convinced that I'm not going to teach it in my class. The romance is really like going back to soft-core horror instead of hard-core horror."

PEOPLE



PRIZED — The actress Catherine Deneuve in New York with her daughter, Chiara Mastroianni, after the Alliance Francaise honored her for fostering "cultural understanding" between France and the United States.

A 1716 Stradivarius valued at \$3 million has been stolen from the Italian violinist Luigi Albertoni Bianchi, the police in Rome said. Investigators said they suspected that the thieves were commissioned to steal the instrument, the sole object taken last week from the home of the musician's mother. They said there was no sign of forced entry. Bianchi paid \$900,000 for the instrument, named Colossus for its size, at a London auction in 1987.

A Los Angeles County grand jury has indicted the Grammy Award-winning singer and keyboardist Billy Preston; his former manager, Merle Ollis Greene, and five other people on 22 charges of arson and insurance fraud. Prosecutors contend that the group collected more than \$1 million by filing fraudulent insurance claims. The fraud included setting fire to their own homes, and staging burglaries and vehicle accidents between 1991 and this year. Preston, 52, is in prison for violating probation on a cocaine possession conviction. A defense lawyer could not be reached for comment.

The American soprano Cheryl Studer has been dropped by the Munich Opera after its director, Peter Jonas, termed her voice "not good enough." Studer, 43, was to have sung in "Die Freischütz," earning \$165,000 for rehearsals and eight performances. She is suing the company. She and her husband, Erwin Schwarz, who is also her agent, said she was

dropped because she does not get along with Zubin Mehta, who is to conduct.

A jury in Los Angeles has decided that Jean-Claude Van

New Twist Over a Van Gogh

Agence France-Press

PARIS — A fierce dispute over a reputed painting by Van Gogh that has been called a fake has taken a new twist, with the work's latest owners demanding their money back.

"Jardin à Auvers," an oil study of a garden in Auvers, where Van Gogh spent his last two months before killing himself, is owned by the heirs of the multimillionaire banker Jean-Marc Vernes, who bought it at auction in 1992 for 55 million francs (\$10 million at today's rates).

After questions about its authenticity prevented Vernes's heirs from selling the painting in 1996, the family has decided to file for an annulment of the sale and full reimbursement by its original owners, the newspaper Le Figaro reported Tuesday. The family has sued both the sellers, descendants of the art collector Jacques Walter, and the auctioneers, Jean-Claude Binoche and Antoine Godeau, the newspaper said.

Damme owes nothing to a martial arts expert who claimed he collaborated with the actor on a movie script. Frank Dux sued Van Damme for \$1.5 million, claiming he broke their contract over "The Quest," a 1991 movie that Van Damme directed and starred in. Dux said the film was similar to the manuscript for "Enter the Dragon: The Kung-Fu," which they both wrote. Dux said he planned to appeal.

Newsweek's managing editor, Mark Whitaker, has been promoted to editor, succeeding the late Maynard Parker and becoming the first black editor of a major U.S. news weekly. The new managing editors will be Ann McDaniel, Newsweek's Washington bureau chief, assistant managing editor and chief of correspondents, and Jon Meacham, national affairs editor, the magazine announced Tuesday. Parker died last month at age 58 of complications from pneumonia after being diagnosed with leukemia last November. Parker had returned to work in June but fell ill again and was hospitalized in September.

Roberto Benigni's "La Vita e Bella" ("Life Is Beautiful") has been named the official Italian competitor for best foreign film at the 1999 Academy Awards. The film, starring Benigni, won the Grand Jury Prize at the 1998 Cannes festival. It is a Chaplinesque fable of love and imagination set against the Holocaust.

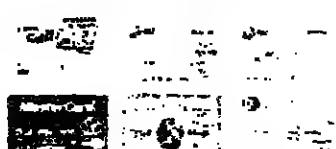


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